FBIS DAILY REPORT

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LA NACION ON BRITISH FALKLANDS PROPOSAL

PY042359 Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 4 Apr 85 p 1

[Text] After a series of consultations in London and Buenos Aires, LA NACION is able to assert that the United Kingdom has officially proposed to the Argentine Government the resumption of diplomatic negotiations on the Malvinas Islands, although the proposal excludes the sovereignty issue.

Last night, a high-ranking official of the Radical government confirmed to this newspaper that the Foreign Office, following the instructions of Mrs Thatcher's cabinet, officially -- through the Swiss Embassy in this capital -- sent a note addressed to Foreign Minister Dante Caputo in this regard. The source added that the note, delivered in mid-January, has still not been answered by the Argentine authorities, precisely because it does not propose discussions regarding the sovereignty of the archipelago. However, according to the same source, President Raul Alfonsin allegedly answered the British Government through the statements he made to the media during his recent trip to the United States.

In fact, during his stay in New York and after meeting with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, the Argentine president told journalists that "Argentina cannot agree to a dialogue with London while the British Government refuses to negotiate sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands."

This information was revealed last week when the new British ambassador to La Paz, Alan White, informed the media in La Paz that communications with the Argentine Government had been resumed in search of a solution to the problem over the archipelago. On that occasion, he added that his government had sent a letter in this regard to President Alfonsin and added that this action reflected a rapprochement between the two nations. The British announcement was made in a very unconventional way while President Alfonsin was visiting Mexico on his way back from the United States.

Sources close to the British Government consulted by LA NACION by telephone in London have confirmed the statement by Ambassador White in La Paz.

Argentine Government sources have told this newspaper that "London is maintaining its dilatory maneuvers and its total intransigence while trying to convince the public that it is inclined to negotiate." The already known position of the Argentine Government is that no negotiations or conversations can take place as long as the main problem between the two nations is ignored: the sovereignty of the islands.

It has been learned that the note recently submitted by the United Kingdom reportedly proposes to start official conversations over issues of common interest, such as the resumption of flights, reciprocal commercial relations, the solution of problems involving the issuance of visas, the reestablishment of normal diplomatic relations, and other issues, but suggests putting aside the sovereignty of the islands.

It should be recalled that in February 1984 the British Government, a short time after Alfonsin's inauguration, officially submitted a note proposing the start of talks. Such steps ended with the meeting between the two delegations in July 1984 in Bern. Its result -- the sudden interruption of the dialogue -- was a great disappointment in the face of the great expectations.

DENIAL ISSUED ON ALFONSIN PLANS TO VISIT ISRAEL

PY032120 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1557 GMT 3 Apr 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Apr (DYN) -- Presidential spokesman Jose Ignacio Lopez today said that President Raul Alfonsin has never planned to make an official visit to Israel. He pointed out that news about the trip was only carried in press reports. Lopez made that explanation when asked about reports from Israel that Alfonsin had decided to "cancel" his trip to that country. Israeli newspapers have reported that the Argentine president canceled the trip because "economic problems forced him to stay" in the country.

TRADE OFFICIAL ON U.S. LAWS, EGYPTIAN MARKET

PY020244 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 2 Apr 85 p 3

[Text] (DYN-NA) -- Foreign Trade Secretary Ricardo Campero said yesterday the new U.S. trade law "limits the possibilities of Latin American exports" and announced a series of projects to sell agricultural and other products to Egypt.

Campero said he believed the U.S. law "greatly conditions the chances of increasing our exports and creates uncertainty, rather than security, among exporters. The secretary said "agricultural products are showing significant gains, but are affected by the crisis in prices triggered by protectionism and the policy of subsidized products carried out in less productive countries. He calculated the phenomenon, which has amounted to between 30 and 40 percent drop in international prices, "will mean about a one-billion dollar loss in our exports."

Campero also said he expected the government's oil policy announcements would mean doubling crude by-product exports in 1986, which are currently worth between 400 and 500 million dollars.

Speaking at Ezeiza Airport on his return from Egypt, the secretary said that the country was "a regular buyer of Argentine meat," but we later lost that market "due to the European Economic Community's price policies." He said Argentina was studying diversifying that market in the future to include such items as oil-seeds and tea in the long term. More immediately, Campero spoke of exporting medical and dental equipment and announced he brought back a draft agreement for 250,000 tons of grain which must now be studied by the National Grain Board.

PRESIDENTIAL SPOKESMAN ON FOREIGN INVESTMENTS

PY031839 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 3 Apr 85

[Text] Presidential Secretary General German Lopez made some statements this morning. Lopez stated that President Alfonsin is determined to modernize the country and that, to this end, there is no alternative but to resort to foreign capital so that the investments that will contribute to Argentine development are made. The only way to make up for the time lost, Lopez states, is to urgently make investments, adding that I want to say that the past 10 years have been very dramatic for Argentina and that I consider that in reviewing, in weighing our responsibilities, we are sometimes unfair. Lopez expressed his belief that we have made mistake after mistake for virtually 50 years. He added that we have practiced a sort of political cannibalism, destroying each other. Therefore, German Lopez concluded, President Alfonsin is firmly determined to modernize Argentina in order to put it at the level of efficiency asked by public opinion.

German Lopez stated that financial reform is wanted by broad sectors in the country because the people want to stop being aggravated by the financial sector and [words indistinct] thus harming the rest of the people. He made it clear that the financial reform measures may not be strong enough but there is time to strengthen them. Finally, Lopez commented that the reports on alleged changes in the executive branch are sly attacks against Dr Alfonsin.

JOINT STAFF COMMANDER OUTLINES 1985 PLANS

PY021852 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1630 GMT 1 Apr 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 1 Apr (TELAM) -- Brigadier Teodoro Guillermo Waldner, chief of the Armed Forces Joint Staff (EMC), has said that this institution is aware of the budget restraints and of the limitations this represents, and that the Armed Forces will accept this situation with responsibility and act, strictly in keeping with the economic restrictions, to ensure an efficient, dynamic, and dissuasive military reorganization. He made this statement today in outlining instructions for the 1985 military year. This morning Waldner presided over an informative meeting held at EMC headquarters from 1000 to 1230. The meeting was attended by Defense Secretary Jose Horacio Jauarena, Defense Production Secretary Raul Tomas, Army Chief of Staff Vice Admiral Ramon Arosa, and Air Force Chief of Staff Brigadier Ernesto Crespo, as well as other high-ranking officers of the three branches.

The chief of staff outlined the institution's future activities and referred to, among other subjects, the country's overall situation. He said that "the Republic is experiencing a phase of transition, whose main objective is the definitive establishment of the institutions, a process which entails sacrifices and dedication for the governors and the governed."

After evaluating the country's economic situation, and especially that of the Armed Forces, Waldner said that the EMC is aware of the budget restraints and the limitations which that situation represents. However, Waldner added, "the Armed Forces are going to accept this situation with responsibility and act, strictly in keeping within economic restraints, to ensure an efficient and dynamic dissuasive military reorganization." He stressed that this action will be carried out in close contact with the three forces, and that he has granted priority treatment to the modernization of the Armed Forces within a context of utmost austerity and administrative debureaucratization for the sake of a greater operational efficiency. Waldner ended by making an appeal for an effective, united military which operates for the good of the country.

NEW APPOINTMENTS ANNOUNCED IN FOREIGN MINISTRY

PY032157 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0419 GMT 3 Apr 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 2 Apr (TELAM) -- The national executive branch has made several appointments in the Ministry of Foreign Relations.

Albino Gomez has been appointed press director as of 1 March 1985 by Decree 574.
Elsa Kelly de Guibourg has been given a position in the cabinet of the Foreign Ministry as of 15 February 1985 by Decree 428.
Ramiro Manlio Casasbellas was appointed director of cultural affairs by Decree 577.
Manuel Alberto Alvarez Pereyra was given a position in the personnel office by Decree 576.

MINISTERS TO ASK SILES TO RENEGOTIATE DEBT

PY041530 Paris AFP in Spanish 1456 GMT 4 Apr 85

[Text] La Paz, 4 Apr (AFP) -- It was officially reported in La Paz today that the Bolivian ministers are going to ask President Hernan Siles Zuazo to authorize the renegotiation of the $700-million foreign debt with international private banks.

In statements to AFP, Planning Minister Freddy Justiniano has stated that unless such a renegotiation is implemented the country will be faced with serious problems. As a result of pressure exerted by the Bolivian Labor Federation in April 1984 Siles Zuazo announced that Bolivia had decided to unilaterally and for an undetermined period suspend the servicing of the foreign debt until the national productive apparatus was reactivated. Justiniano stated that such a renegotiation will take place beginning late April.

GOVERNMENT AUTHORIZES DUTY FREE FOOD IMPORTS

PY050030 Paris AFP in Spanish 0017 GMT 4 Apr 85

[Text] La Paz, 3 Apr (AFP) -- It was reported here today that the government of Bolivian President Hernan Siles Zuazo has decided to authorize the free importation of seven food products for 60 days.

The free importation of these products (wheat flour, cooking oil, butter, noodles, rice, and evaporated and powder milk) is aimed at reestablishing the normal food supply on the domestic market.

It has been reported that the Industry and Commerce Ministry will establish the ceiling prices for these products for consumers, and that the importers will only have to pay the state the duties for services rendered.

COCHABAMBA NARCOTICS OFFICIALS LINKED TO DRUG TRADE

PY042038 Paris AFP in Spanish 1500 GMT 4 Apr 85

[Excerpt] La Paz, 4 Apr (AFP) -- It was disclosed here today that officials of the Narcotics Department in Cochabamba (the central part of the country) have been dismissed from their posts for allegedly being involved in the shipment of 1,100 kg of cocaine that was discovered last Tuesday in this city.

As a result of the operation, the largest in the history of Bolivia, the director of the Narcotics Department, Carabineros Colonel Edwin Caballero, was dismissed and immediately replaced by Colonel Carlos Vizcarra.

Major Victor Hugo Marcoski, head of the Anti-Drug Operation Department at the Jorge Wilsterman Airport in Cochabamba, was also dismissed and placed at the disposal of the Bolivian chief of police.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON PRESIDENT NEVES' CONDITION

Undergoes Two More Operations

PY041659 Paris AFP in Spanish 1653 GMT 4 Apr 85

[Text] Sao Paulo, 4 Apr (AFP) -- The official spokesman has announced that the doctors attending Brazilian President Tancredo Neves have operated on him for the sixth time in order to remove an infectious sac in his abdomen. This new operation was carried out almost simultaneously with the fifth operation after they failed to remove pus by means of an incision. The spokesman said that the president was well.

Procedures Explained

PY041845 Sao Paulo Bandeirantes in Portuguese 1824 GMT 4 Apr 85

[Medical Bulletin on President Tancredo Neves' condition read by Presidential Press Secretary Antonio Brito at the Reboucas cultural center in Sao Paulo -- live]

[Text] May I please have everyone's attention for the following medical bulletin:

The medical team treating President Tancredo Neves, headed by Professor Dr Henrique Walter Pinotti, has released the following report:

1. In the last few hours the president again ran a fever that suggests the existence of one or more infections.

2. To identify the areas of infection special scintillography tests with isotopes and a sonogram were performed.

3. Two areas of infection were spotted in the abdomen, one of them intraperitoneal and the other retroperitoneal, on the left side.

4. The president was immediately taken to the operating room, where the two abscesses were drained through two small incisions. Each incision is approximately 2-cm long.

5. In view of the irregularities which appeared this morning in his breathing, it was necessary to operate under a general anesthesia and do an intubation of the trachea in order to control the supply of oxygen to the lungs.

6. During the operation cardiovascular and kidney functions did not show important changes. This situation is continuing.

7. All material removed from the abscesses was immediately sent for bacteriological examination.

8. The operation was carried out by Dr Henrique Walter Pinotti and the general anesthetic was administered by Rui [name indistinct] de Amaral.

9. Right now the president is in the intensive care unit starting his convalecense.

Released in Sao Paulo at 1530, 4 April 1985

Signed: Henrique Walter Pinotti and Joao Baptista de Rezende

Blood Pressure Drops to Zero

PY042228 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese 2205 GMT 4 Apr 85

[Report by Carlos Rodrigues from Brasilia]

[Excerpt] We are reporting from Jaburu Palace, the vice presidential residence. Vice presidential spokesman (Fermando Cesar Mesquita) has reported that President Jose Sarney has just been informed that President Tancredo Neves suffered a hypotension attack late in the afternoon. That means that his blood pressure dropped to zero. The spokesman said that the doctors immediately provided the proper treatment.

Late in the afternoon, many ministers began arriving here at Jaburu Palace. Aluizio Alves, Marco Maciel, Jose Aparecido, and Paulo Lustosa, the ministers of administration, education, culture and debureaucratization, respectively, are here. All of them have denied that they have been summoned to a special ministerial meeting. They said that they came to Jaburu Palace on their own initiative.

Generalized Infection Denied

PY042251 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese 2235 GMT 4 Apr 85

[Report by Luis Carlos Gertel]

[Text] Presidential Press Secretary Antonio Brito has told reporters that President Tancredo Neves does not have a generalized infection, but isolated areas of infection. Brito reported that the president's pulse reached 140 after the operation. His blood pressure also fluctuated, but this was controlled by supplying oxygen to the president. Brito explained that no tracheotomy was performed on Neves; that is, no incision was made in the trachea. The respiratory tube was introduced through the president's nose. The president is now receiving a plasma-salt solution, intravenous feeding, and specific medicines to fight the infection.

Head of Medical Team Concerned

PY050026 Paris AFP in Spanish 2357 GMT 4 Apr 85

[Text] Sao Paulo, 4 Apr (AFP -- The O Globo Television Network has reported that Dr Henrique Walter Pinotti, head of the medical team treating Brazilian President Tancredo Neves, this evening voiced his concern over the deterioration of the president's health.

The source stated that Deputy Ulysses Guimaraes, president of the Chamber of Deputies, told journalists that Dr Pinotti this evening told him of his concern over the state of his patient, who today underwent his fifth abdominal operation in the past 21 days.

Moreover, the O Globo Television Network disclosed that a doctor at the Heart Institute where the president is hospitalized who requested that his name not be revealed this evening said that they had observed an inflammation in the superior area of the patient's lungs.

Breathing Assisted

PY050245 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 0210 GMT 5 Apr 85

[Medical bulletin on President Tancredo Neves' condition read by Presidential Press Secretary Antonio Brito at the Reboucas cultural center in Sao Paulo -- live]

[Text] I have the medical bulletin that was just released by Dr Henrique Walter Pinotti and Dr Joao Baptista de Rezende Alves with the latest information on President Tancredo Neves' health. I will now read the bulletin, which states:

The medical team treating President Tancredo Neves, headed by Dr Henrique Walter Pinotti, has released the following information:

1. Seven and 1/2 hours after the operation to which he was submitted today, the patient's reaction is favorable.

2. The cardiocirculatory functions have returned to normal without the need to administer medicine.

3. The renal functions are normal.

4. Breathing is being maintained with the aid of equipment.

5. Right now, the clinical condition is encouraging.

Sao Paulo, 4 April 2300

I would like to add the following information: During the past few hours the country has learned, through the official reports issued by the doctors, about the president's health. These reports have stated that the president's health is facing difficult moments. However, the hope and optimism at this moment are not only the result of the unanimous desire of the 130 million Brazilian people but are also a hope and optimism nourished by the real situation experienced during the past few hours by the president of the Republic.

Good evening.

Pinotti, Netto Leave Hospital

PY050408 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 0220 GMT 5 Apr 85

[Excerpt] Presidential adviser Antonio Brito has just ended the briefing he was giving the journalists on duty here at the Reboucas cultural center.

Antonio Brito disclosed that Dr Walter Pinotti has just left the hospital. He left the hospital [words indistinct] Tancredo Neves is satisfactory. His blood pressure is 120/80 and his pulse is 90. The intra-tracheal tube has normalized the president's condition, and he is not runnign a fever. The president is still under the effect of sedatives and remains, as Antonio Brito described, drowsy.

The intra-tracheal tube will not be removed until tomorrow. He will also have to be fed intravenously and the medicine administered to the president in order to normalize the... [transmission interrupted by report of press conference held by Antonio Brito]

[Begin report] [Brito] [Broadcast in progress] ...situation stable. The cardiovascular condition, that is, the heart and the lung, is stable. It stabilized itself, without the need for administration of any type of medicine over the past few hours. Regarding his breathing, he is being aided by equipment, but this function is also stable. There are also other signs that indicate that at this moment the president is recovering well. His blood pressure, his pulse, the lack of a fever, all this contributed to allow the doctors to end this long day with caution but alert considering the series of difficult moments which the president has already faced and still faces. However, they are difficulties which one faces with optimism, an optimism prompted by the explanations I have given to all of you, which you deserve because of the prayers the nation has said for (?his health).

[Reporter] Is the president under sedation.

[Brito] The use of sedatives is normal after operations of this type. It is up to the physicians to take the measures that will allow him to spend a quiet night sleeping.

[Reporter] Why did Dr Vicent Amato Netto leave the hospital. Will he no longer be in charge of treating President Tancredo Neves' infection?

[Brito] Well, a preliminary analysis [words indistinct]. In the first place, he is tired. Dr Amato has worked very hard here at the institute. He will probably take a few hours to rest and then return to his work as efficiently and with as much dedication as ever.

[Reporter] How about the second reason?

[Brito] The second reason is probably due to the assurance given him by the medical team. The doctors' assessment points out that right now the president's recovery is good and satisfactory.

[Reporter] Has Dr Pinotti also left?

[Brito] With such positive signs, the lack of fever right now...

[Reporter] Dr Pinotti has also left the hospital, do you think that he did so because he feels more at ease after such a heavy and critical day.

[Brito] Yes, Dr Pinotti (?left a while ago). Dr Pinotti issued this medical bulletin [words indistinct] and then went to see Mrs Risoleta [President Neves' wife] and President Tancredo's relatives and told them to be cautious and alert, but that he ended the night optimistic and satisfied with the results of the last test of the evening.

Condition Stable

PY051100 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese 1025 GMT 5 Apr 85

[Report on President Tancredo Neves' condition released at the Reboucas cultural center in Sao Paulo by Presidential Press Secretary Antonio Brito -- live]

[Text] Good morning gentlemen. I would like to convey to you the information I have jsut received from the doctors on the overall condition of President Neves throughout last night and early this morning.

The president spent the night slightly sedated. On several occasions he managed to communicate, through gestures, with doctors and relatives who spent the night with him: his sister Ester, his cousin Aluizio Neves, and his wife Risoleta. According to the doctors, President Neves' condition has been stable and with good signs. For instance, at no time did the president have a fever last night, his pulse has remained stable at a rate which doctors described as completely normal: 90. His blood pressure has also remained stable at normal levels: 130 or 14/80. His kidneys have been functioning well. Intravenous feeding continues.

Within a few minutes his doctors will start to conduct tests and will collect samples for lab tests in order to prescri e treatment for the next recovery stage. The one thing I would like to convey at the request of the doctors is that at this immediate post-operative stage, the president has done well, that his condition is encouraging. This allows us to be optimistic and makes us harbor hopes about his recovery. Thank you.

Breathing Without Machine

PY051200 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 1125 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Radio Guaiba reporter from the Heart Institute of Sao Paulo University Clinical Hospital]

[Excerpts] At about 0710, Antonio Brito Filho, presidential press secretary, read today's first official medical bulletin. Throughout the night President Tancredo Neves was kept on a breathing apparatus, which was removed after daybreak. In the next official medical bulletin, to be delivered by the medical team through Press Secretary Antonio Brito, we will probably will have some result of the tests that will have been made on President Neves.

Homeopaths Join Medical Team

PY051225 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese 1202 GMT 5 Apr 85

[Report from Sao Paulo Heart Institute by Bahia Filho and Lazaro Roberto]

[Excerpt] The mystery surrounding the presence of two doctors from Rio de Janeiro who arrived yesterday in Sao Paulo has been solved. They are now here at the Heart Institute to assist in the recovery process and treatment of President Neves. They are Dr (Alfredo Eugenio Febrole) and Dr Nelson Almeida Santos, specialists in homeopathy. They were recommended by Deputy Milton Reis, of the Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party from Minas Gerais State, who is a close friend of the Neves family.

SARNEY APPOINTS ACTING BRASILIA GOVERNOR

PY041650 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1030 GMT 4 Apr 85

[Excerpt] Acting President Jose Sarney on 3 April decided to assume full powers as president of the Republic and take the necessary measures for the normal functioning of the administration. The president asked Democratic Alliance congressional leaders to speed up the election of candidates for the most important second-echelon posts. Early last night, the president designated Interior Minister Ronaldo Costa Couto as acting governor of the Brasilia Federal District. Costa Couto will replace Jose Ornellas, who had been appointed to the position during the Figueiredo administration. Ronaldo Costa Couto will hold the post of acting governor for 30 days.

REPORTAGE ON REACTION TO PRESIDENT'S CONDITION

Military Command Supports Sarney

PY041734 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1701 GMT 4 Apr 85

[Excerpts] Sao Paulo, 4 Apr (EFE) -- Political parties represented in Congress have signed an agreement pledging to comply with Article 77 of the Constitution which provides that the vice president will take over if the president is unable to assume his duties. The high military command has also reiterated its support for Sarney as head of the Brazilian Government if Tancredo Neves dies.

Sarney Stays in Brasilia

PY041717 Rio de Janeiro Radio Globo in Portuguese 1703 GMT 4 Apr 85

[Text] President Jose Sarney is not going to go to Sao Paulo. He will remain at the Jaburu Palace in Brasilia closely following the information on President Tancredo Neves' condition. President Sarney has a direct line from Jaburu Palace to the Heart Institute.

Administration Minister Aluizio Alves, who has been with the acting president since 0800, went up to the palace gate to inform the journalists that so far there is no meeting scheduled with the ministers in Sao Paulo.

Acting President Jose Sarney has said that those ministers who wish to may follow President Tancredo's health closely by traveling to Sao Paulo.

According to the administration minister, President Jose Sarney is very tense and worried but continues to be optimistic, hoping that President Tancredo Neves spiritual and physical strength will save him.

Aluizio Alves also disclosed that the president has just received a phone call from Sao Paulo informing him that the situation is quite serious since the president has three different infections.

Should President Tancredo Neves' health seriously deteriorate, Acting President Jose Sarney will immediately travel to Sao Paulo.

Military Ministers Return

PY042214 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 2150 GMT 4 Apr 85

[Text] Brasilia -- In view of the worsening of President Tancredo Neves' health, Aeronautics Minister General Octavio Moreira Lima and Navy Minister Admiral Enrique Saboya, who were in Rio de Janeiro, have returned to Brasilia, from where they will closely follow the development of the president's condition.

The aeronautics and navy ministers said that the situation in the country is calm, including among the Armed Forces and that, like the rest of the Brazilian nation, they are closely following developments.

Although it has not been confirmed, it is stated that the Army minister has asked the Army generals to be alert because they could be summoned for a meeting.

Metalworkers To Strike

PY041923 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese 1831 GMT 4 Apr 85

[Report by Maria Cida from Brasilia]

[Excerpts] Luiz Inacio Lula de Silva, the president of the Workers Party [PT], met late this morning with Justice Minister Fernando Lyra and Labor Minister Almir Pazzianotto. The meeting ended at approximately 1400.

Concerning the strike called by the Sao Paulo metalworkers for 11 April, Lula said that the decision remains unchanged, and that the workers are clearly aware of the political situation but that they will not relinquish their right to strike. Lula also explained that neither of the two ministers asked him to lift the strike because of the aggravation of President Tancredo Neves' condition.

Governor: 'Neves Was Our Leader'

PY042325 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese 2310 GMT 4 Apr 85

[Press conference with Minas Gerais Governor Helio Garcia in Sao Paulo on 4 April -- recorded]

[Excerpt] [Reporter] Governor, do you have hopes at this moment, or do you think the situation is already too serious?

[Garcia] I always harbor hope. I have faith and I believe in God. Therefore, we will see what happens. I hope the nation will understand what is happening. This should be an example, because he was our leader, he was our leader, our great leader.

U.S. Denies Plane Offer

PY050555 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 0200 GMT 5 Apr 85

[Live report from the Heart Institute of Sao Paulo University Clinical Hospital by reporter Alcir Oliveira]

[Excerpts] There is an airplane here at the Sao Paulo airport ready to take off at a moment's notice. However, this does not mean that this airplane necessarily will make, in theory, a most tragic (?trip) for the whole Brazilian nation.

It so happens that the government and the whole nation expect President Tancredo Neves to recover. It would be unbelievable and show complete disorganization if this government were not (?prepared) during such a moment of transition, a moment during which we are waiting for President Tancredo Neves to recover his health and assume his presidential post. So it would be incredible if an airplane were not being kept ready at the airport in case of any eventuality.

Amidst the tense atmosphere in Brasilia, the U.S. Embassy has reported that it knows nothing about the alleged offer made by U.S. President Ronald Reagan to provide a hospital airplane to the Brazilian president so that he could continue his medical treatment in the United States. The U.S. Embassy also said that this issue was not mentioned during the conversation between Foreign Minister Olavo Setubal and U.S. Ambassador Diego Asencio. Asencio only expressed to the foreign minister his and his government's best wishes for the recovery of President Tancredo Neves.

TEXT

Ministers Meet With Sarney

PY050430 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 0200 GMT 5 Apr 85

[Text] Politicians are meeting in the residence of Acting President Jose Sarney in Brasilia to follow President Tancredo Neves' condition. We have a report from Brasilia by (Irineo Samaggini):

[Begin report] Despite the fact that Justice Minister Fernando Lyra has just said that there is no cabinet meeting scheduled with Acting President Jose Sarney in the next few hours, the fact is that at this time the Jaburu residence of the vice president has been taken over by politicians inside and by hundreds of journalists outside.

The politicians who are in Sarney's residence include the leader of the Brazilian Democratic Movement Party [PMDB], in the Chamber of Deputeis, Deputy Pimenta da Vega; Education Minister Marco Maciel; Administration Minister Aluizio Alves; Debureaucratization Minister Paulo Lustosa; and Minister of Social Security Walter Pires.

The mood in Brasilia is one of expectation and concern over the worsening of President Tancredo Neves' health. Here in Brasilia, military and political sources have said that in case of the inability of President Tancredo Neves to assume his position, the Constitution will be obeyed, just as it was when Vice President Jose Sarney assumed the position of acting president when President-elect Tancredo Neves was hospitalized at the Base Hospital.

There is currently an administrative team on duty in the Planalto Palace. In the case of the incapacitation of the president, Acting President Jose Sarney will speak to the nation. The lights in Planalto Palace are on and the employees are working, including the employees of the Presidential Press Secretariat. [end report]

Army Denies State of Alert

PY050104 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese 0005 GMT 5 Apr 85

[Report from the Bandeirantes Palace in Sao Paulo by reporter Percio Ferrera]

[Text] Good evening, listeners. At 2107 General Sebastiao Ramos de Tarso, Commander of the 2d Army headquartered in Sao Paulo, called from his residence to give the following report:

In view of the unsubstantiated rumors that the 2d Army is on a state of alert, I can say that we are following developments regarding the condition of President Tancredo Neves. We have given no thought whatsoever to putting the 2d Army on a state of alert.

General Ivan de Souze Mendes, chief of the National Intelligence Service, who is in Sao Paulo, has not called me, and he has not requested putting the troops on a state of alert. Had he for any reason deemed it necessary, Gen Souza Mendes would have made the request through Army Minister General Leonidas Pires Goncalves, as protocol dictates.

From the Bandeirantes Palace, this is Percio Ferrera reporting.

LAST LINE

LATE REPORT: NEVES' LUNG INFLAMMATION DECREASING

PY051450 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese 1404 GMT 5 Apr 85

[Report on President Tancredo Neves' condition released by Presidential Press Secretary Antonio Brito at the Press Room of the Heart Institute of the Sao Paulo University Clinical Hospital -- live]

[Text] I have new information released by the doctors in a medical bulletin. I am here with Deputy Ulysses Guimaraes, president of the Chamber of Deputies, who will later make a statement. I will now read the medical bulletin which states:

The medical team, led by Professor Henrique Walter Pinotti, that has been treating President Tancredo Neves has released the following bulletin:

1. President Neves had a calm night. He is now awake.

2. Cardiovascular and kidney functions have remained stable, within normal limits [words indistinct].

3. The president is now breathing naturally, without the equipment he had used since yesterday's operation. However, the patient still has an inserted tracheal tube as a precautionary measure.

4. Based on X rays taken this morning, the inflammation of the lungs appears to be decreasing markedly.

5. The initial surgical incision shows signs of improvement. There have been no further signs of infection.

Sao Paulo, 5 April 1100.

[Signed] Henrique Walter Pinotti and Joao Baptista Rezende Alves

OFFICIALS BLAME COMMUNISTS FOR KIDNAPPINGS, MURDERS

Carabinero Chief

PY041616 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 2300 GMT 3 Apr 85

[Report from Government House by Osvaldo Yanez]

[Text] Good evening. Referring to the kidnapping and the murder of three persons, Carabinero Director General Cesar Mendoza Duran today stated that international communism has punished those who it considers are to be blamed for the failure of the stoppages and protests in the country. At the same time, Gen Mendoza, a member of the government junta, stated that communism holds the government responsible for this action, which is being investigated by the courts due to a petition filed by the Interior Ministry. Gen Mendoza made these statements after meeting with the president of the Republic at La Moneda Palace. Upon being questioned about the reason for the meeting with the president, Gen Mendoza stated that during the talks strictly institutional and administrative matters were discussed. Gen Mendoza held the following question-answer exchange with the press:

[Begin recording] [Reporter] General, what was the reason for your visit?

[Mendoza] Look, strictly administrative and institutional matters were discussed with the president.

[Reporter] General, there is a question all of us want to ask. It refers to the case that has shaken public opinion, that is, the persons who were kidnapped.

[Mendoza] Well, except for what you already know, I honestly have no idea what else can be added.

[Reporter] What is your personal opinion?

[Mendoza] A personal one, eh? I do not know what it is worth, but it happens that many things must be considered. First, who is interested in creating such a problem? Another question: who are promoting crime, terrorism, bomb attacks, or the means to obtain explosive materials. Well, whom do they (?want to fool)? You know that those persons were top-ranking leaders, and that the stoppages, protests, and so on have failed. International communism does not excuse this. They have never excused it. Thus, they are fulfilling two objectives. 1) to punish those who they consider should be blamed; and 2) to put the burden on the government. [words indistinct] [end recording]

Gen Mendoza added that, in the first place, the citizenry must be fully aware of those who are the real perpetrators of this type of action and proceed accordingly. If the people go on thinking that it is not their business, then it may be possible that this will turn into something else, because this is a problem affecting all Chileans, not just the president of the Republic and government officials. Gen Mendoza emphasized that the Carabineros continue working and cooperating, because all the organizations continue working for the same goal. I hope it is successful. I cannot say anything else because I do not have more data.

Gen Mendoza also stressed that the terrorist mission in Chile is to cause trouble and mistrust as well as terror to destabilize the government.

Asked about his view of the opinion issued yesterday by the medical association, which had even asked for the intervention of the pope in this matter. Gen Mendoza stated that he was not surprised.

Defense Minister

PY041809 Santiago Radio Chilean in Spanish 2300 GMT 3 Apr 85

[Report by Jose Francisco Contreras]

[Text] Good evening. Defense Minister Vice Admiral Patricio Carvajal, retired, today stated that he doesn't have the slightest doubt that the communists are the perpetrators of the kidnapping and the killing of three persons over the past weekend. Vice Admiral Carvajal added that the foreign press lies and that when there is no bad news about Chile, it fabricates it.

Upon the conclusion of a ceremony marking the 167th anniversary of the Maipu battle, Carvajal today made these and other statements. Asked about the statements made by Admiral Merino, who blamed the communists for the kidnapping and the killing of three persons, Carvajal stated that he didn't have the slightest doubt. Here are Carvajal's statements:

[Begin recording] Well, I do not have the slightest doubt that they want a [word indistinct]. All it takes is to listen to Moscow Radio to realize that communism and all these actions are directed from Moscow. These Chilean communist puppets are run by the communists in Moscow. Those [word indistinct] gives them the instructions on what is and what is not to be done here. Thus, the useful idiots should take note of that and realize that they are being manipulated by foreigners. [end recording]

The defense minister was asked whether the communists were the perpetrators of those crimes, because if so, they have killed members of their own party. In response to this question, Carvajal stated that this is something that is being investigated and that all of us want it clarified. He added that he would not dare to make any judgment because it would be prejudice. I am very satisfied that the courts have tackled this case with the seriousness that it deserves and that all security organizations are dedicated to fully cooperating with the courts. Carvajal said. I believe, Carvajal stated, that we, all the Chileans, want this crime solved.

Concerning some foreign commentaries blaming the triple kidnapping and killing on the Chilean security organizations, the defense minister stated that we already know how much the foreign press lies; we know that the foreign journalists come here seeking [words indistinct] and they never publish it. Carvajal added that if there is no bad news then they fabricate it. It is sad, he said, but they make a living by doing so.

DEL VALLE SAYS U.S. CONGRESSMEN TO VISIT

PY042042 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1830 GMT 4 Apr 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle has reported that U.S. congressmen are going to visit Chile to learn the real situation here. The minister added that other foreign officials also are planning to visit Chile. The minister made this announcement at the conclusion of a meeting in La Moneda Palace that was attended by Interior Minister Ricardo Garcia and the Chilean ambassador to the United States, Felipe Errazuriz. The minister said that an evaluation of relations with the United States, which were labeled as absolutely normal from all points of view, was made.

The minister said that he supports visits by foreign officials, because this is how they can get an objective view of the real Chilean situation. In conclusion, he said that those people who have anti-Chilean opinions will always be partial and lacking a realistic view and that this is not good for any country, because this is not the real opinion that a visitor should have about a nation.

BETANCUR ENDS U.S. VISIT, CARRIES REAGAN MESSAGE

PA050247 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0024 GMT 5 Apr 85

[Report from Washington by special correspondent Dario Royos Cosme -- live or recorded]

[Text] After a brief farewell ceremony by the Colombian merchant fleet, President Betancur began his trip back to Colombia early this evening accompanied by the entire economic team that arrived with him at the beginning of the week.

President Belisario Betancur had lunch with President Reagan. There were important decisions regarding the Contadora peace process.

Before leaving, President Betancur chatted with this journalist and said: Here, in my pocket [words indistinct] an envelope. Here I have a document given to me by President Reagan. This document is a message to me. I will probably make it known either tomorrow or the day after when I am back in Bogota. Therefore, the personal message that Dr Belisario Betancur has with him as he travels to Colombia is a secret.

There is another secret. Up to the moment when Betancur held a press conference, until 1600, he had plans to stop in Managua on his return trip. He had another meeting scheduled with Commander Ortega, with whom he met last Sunday when he left Bogota. Everyone knows that he made stopovers in several Central American countries.

We heard from President Betancur that on his way back to Bogota he could take a roundabout route and make a technical stop in Managua to talk briefly with Commander Ortega, surely to give him a message from President Reagan, and then continue on to Bogota. However, those who are accompanying President Betancur did not know whether they will arrive at midnight, since a direct flight takes 5 hours, or at 0500 or 0600, since they would have to take another route if they are going to Managua.

During the press conference, we asked President Betancur if there is a meeting scheduled and he said that a technical stop is possible. He did not say yes or no. However, such a meeting was sought before President Betancur's departure and it would not be strange if President Betancur stopped in Managua to talk with Ortega. The important thing is what Dr Betancur has in his pocket. It is a message given to him by President Reagan when he bid Dr Betancur farewell. It is a document that President Betancur showed us during the ceremony hosted by the Colombian merchant fleet. I have this, he said, and either tomorrow or the day after I will make it public in Bogota because everything cannot be made public at one time.

Therefore, there is a secret for the end of Easter week.

MILITARY SOURCES REPORT CLASHES WITH M-19

PA041438 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 3 Apr 85

[Text] Cali -- Military sources have reported that the Army and the 19 April Movement [M-19] are fighting in Pradera, Valle del Cauca Department. The clashes resulted in casualties on both sides. The military troops include air and ground antiguerrilla commandos who are fighting remnants of the guerrilla organization that attacked a military patrol and killed an officer and two soldiers (?72 hours ago). The M-19 column is being led by (Roger del Pabon), the so-called "Commander Uno," who is receiving reinforcements, supplies, and ammunition from the Southern Front led by Gustavo Arias Londono, alias "Boris." Military sources have told the press that Army Commander Rafael Samudio is leading the operation against the guerrilla group and that several rebels were killed and others captured.

PENITENTIARY INMATES RIOT, TAKE HOSTAGES

PY041827 Lima Cadena Panamericana Television in Spanish 0300 GMT

[Text] The El Fronton Prison inmates, most of whom have been imprisoned on terrorism charges, reportedly rioted the afternoon of 3 April and have reportedly taken eight penal officials hostage.

It has been unofficially reported that among other demands, the inmates are asking for a greater supply of potable water, and for visiting hours be extended.

A large police detachment was observed at El Callao dock; big fires were also seen on El Fronton Island. It is presumed that the inmates have set fire to the penitentiary.

German Smoll, deputy director of penal institutions, the El Fronton director, as well as other El Fronton officials, reportedly are among the hostages. At the Justice Ministry it has been reported that a report will be issued on what has happened in El Fronton, but it has been leaked that the officials were taken hostage while they were conducting a fact-finding visit.

ECONOMY MINISTER RESCHEDULES DEBT WITH PARIS CLUB

PY022338 Paris AFP in Spanish 2202 GMT 31 Mar 85

[Text] Lima, 31 Mar (AFP) -- Economy and Finance Minister Guillermo Garrido Lecca today stated in Lima that Peru has rescheduled its debt with the Paris Club. He stated that the Paris Club accepted the obligations (principal and interest) corresponding to 1978, 1979, and 1980, totaling $40 million, being paid first.

Garrido Lecca, who returned from a long tour that took him to Paris twice, Moscow, and Vienna, explained that the creditors club prefers that the older obligations be paid first, chronologically canceling the refinancing contracts; that is, the obligations for the refinancing of the 1978-79 period first and then the ones for the 1979-80 period. Garrido Lecca stated that this method of payment will maintain the flow of credits and that it will open the possibility of subsequent refinancing.

The minister emphasized the valuable cooperation of his French counterpart, Pierre Beregovoy, who during the meeting with the Paris Club on 25 March endorsed the new Peruvian proposals in view of the impossibility of Peru paying its debt.

After announcing that intangible payments owed by the Peruvian Central Reserve Bank had been annulled, Garrido Lecca stated that the Europeans are not concerned over the upcoming change of government in Peru, because no matter who is elected president, the flow of credits will be maintained.

In Moscow, the Peruvian minister reviewed the situation of the unfulfilled debt payments, which totaled $50 million for 1984 alone. After acknowledging that the delay was partly due to sea freight procedures and the types of products that the Soviets wanted to acquire from Peru, the minister said that the Soviet Union has accepted payment of the $200-million debt in nontraditional products.

Peru must deliver these products during 1985. A trade delegation headed by Peruvian Industry Minister Alvaro Becerra that has been holding parallel talks in Moscow has secured a market for these products.

Garrido Lecca stated that these negotiations spared Peru from paying the principal and interest in cash, which was stipulated in the Peruvian-Soviet agreement signed in 1983 if the country failed to deliver these products.

In Vienna, during the meeting of the IDB governors, Peru achieved a reduction of the matching funds for loans, political flexibility for projects being implemented, and the support of the Nordisk Bank, which offered credits with a 20-year term and a 10-year grace period. The amount of these credits is still unknown.

Finally, the IDB has agreed to create in 1986 a financial system of Latin American cooperation for investments in private sector projects, Garrido Lecca stated.

FOREIGN MINISTER ON CARTAGENA CONSENSUS PLANS

PY032312 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1456 GMT 3 Apr 85

[Text] Brasilia, 3 Apr (EFE) -- The Latin American countries with foreign debt problems will carry out a new offensive during the upcoming technical meetings of the IMF and World Bank to be held in Washington.

This announcement was made here today by Enrique Iglesias, the Uruguayan foreign minister and secretary of the Cartagena Consensus, who said that the new effort will link the problem of the foreign debt with the need to expand international trade.

Iglesias recognized that negotiations of a political nature are still far off, but that great progress has been made in the last 2 years. He added that the Latin American countries have given proof of their responsibility in managing the problem. Latin America has a debt that stands over $360 billion.

During the meetings of the World Bank development committees and the IMF committee, the 11 nations of the Cartagena Consensus will present a joint position in which they will basically propose that an overall study of the foreign debt be made.

Iglesias, who today ended a brief official visit to Brasilia, said that the social and political costs cannot be excluded from the foreign debt problem.

Prior to the 11 and 12 April meetings in Washington, the representatives of the 11 nations that make up the Cartagena Consensus will meet in the Uruguayan Embassy in Washington to write a joint document.

On 13 April, after the technical meetings with the World Bank and IMF, the 11 members of the Latin American group will evaluate the results of the meeting in Washington.

Iglesias reiterated that as long as the industrialized nations maintain their protectionist policies restricting international trade, the developing countries will have their income restricted and consequently the burden of the foreign debt will be maintained.

The debt and trade cannot be separated, said the Uruguayan foreign minister, who after the meetings in Washington will leave for Brussels, where on 15 April he will explain before the EEC the points of view of the members of the Cartagena Consensus.

This Latin American group includes Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Colombia, Chile, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru, the Dominican Republic, Venezuela, and Uruguay.

Iglesias pointed out that the basic problem in Latin America lies in the different degrees of underdevelopment in the region.

In this regard, he mentioned the case of Brazil, a country with a solid infrastructure to take advantage of the opportunities of world trade, while other countries of the region can hardly survive from the trade in their raw materials, whose prices are now depressed.

Iglesias also referred to the problems created by the foreign debt for the new Latin American democracies. He said that in various nations of the region the serious economic crisis is creating social impatience, which in turn will become a destabilizing factor for the democratic process.

ARDITO BARLETTA ON ECONOMY, MILITARY'S ROLE

PM0211137 Madrid ABC in Spanish 27 Mar 85 p 33

[Emilio Contreras dispatch: "Panama: 'My Major Anxiety is the Absence of a Collective Ideal To Unite the People,' President Nicolas Ardito Barletta Tells ABC"]

[Excerpt] Panama City -- Ardito Barletta's inheritance is not an easy one -- a public deficit of $780 million and a foreign debt of $4 billion, the highest per capita in the whole of Latin America.

The country, Ardito Barletta said, is too accustomed to paternalistic governments. The powerful were granted concessions which ensured their economic domination, while the lowly were granted welfare benefits. On this foundation of favoritism it is very difficult to build a modern country whose progress must be based on free competition. He said that it will not be easy to extricate Panamanian society from this inertia.

He acknowledged that under the Torrijos government major social advances were made due to the economic development of an era of prosperity and to the accumulation of a large foreign debt. These approaches cannot be used in the current situation, with its stagnant economy and the need to revive the economy. However, he has not abandoned the attempt to meet social demands even under such conditions. He believes that to this end it is indispensable to galvanize the country's economy.

In view of this I pointed out to him the apparent contradiction between restoring a country's economy to health and at the same time boosting its growth. Ardito Barletta is not easily fazed: When you express some reservation about his remarks he makes not the slightest hint of a response and his face remains completely impassive. He says categorically that his austerity policy, involving tax hikes and public spending cuts, was ill received by the people and that he was forced to backtrack. After some major difficulties and debates in the National Assembly, the president succeeded in introducing a budget, the first democratically discussed and approved budget in many years.

Nicolas Ardito Barletta believes it is necessary to galvanize the country's economy and to introduce plans that will make it possible for there to be a higher rate of development. He spoke hopefully to me about what they call here "the port center" -- an ambitious project to create in Panama one of the world's major container distribution centers. He also referred to the possible creation of an international currency exchange open around the clock. These plans are well suited to the country's export structure, 60 percent of which depends on service industries. But above all he is stressing greater efficiency and honesty within the civil service. He sets himself a 2-year time limit to achieve concrete results. Unless the economy has been restored to health and a new boost generated within the country by then, he said, he does not rule out the possibility that unrest among the population could materialize as an expression of dissatisfaction that could cause disruption of law and order. He believes that a major sector of the country will help him, thanks to the clear national awareness of the economic crisis.

I asked the president about the possibility of the emergence in this crisis-ridden country of a left-wing revolutionary tendency -- a fear that is affecting broad sectors in Central America, in view of the possible consolidation of the Marxist regime in Nicaragua. President Ardito Barletta answered me promptly with the following clear analysis: Torrijos, he told me, wrested the banner of social demands from the left and now the Democratic Revolutionary Party which he founded occupies the most progressive position in Panamanian politics. Furthermore, he added, Marxism is unlikely to become established in an open country such as Panama.

But the president's main concern is the absence of a collective ideal to give hope to and to unite the people. For years it was nationalism, stimulated by U.S. domination of the canal and its adjacent area. But after the Torrijos-Carter treaties this sense of unity disappeared. The struggle against the United States filled the people with hope, but the struggle for economic development to overcome the crisis does not fire the people's enthusiasm. U.S.-Panamanian relations have taken a historic leap forward which will be completed in the year 2000 with the complete return of the canal to Panama, and have progressed from a long period of inequality to a new phase of equality.

The president spoke calmly but continuously. He hardly gave me the chance to ask my questions. He gives the impression of having very clear ideas and of being fully aware of the difficulties facing him. I took advantage of a pause to ask him directly a question that I had been wanting to ask since the start of our conversation: Does President Ardito Barletta feel really free of military supervision and tutelage? He replied directly, too. The military is stronger than the civilian authorities, after 16 years of monopolizing the government, he said. But he added that Torrijos always had in mind a return to democracy. Throughout the period when he dominated the Panamanian political scene civilians governed under military supervision. The military was not a tool of big capital: On the contrary it flew the banner of a process of social development. "Torrijos," he added, "instilled the Armed Forces with an institutional pride in serving the people. Here, he said, "the opposition to the ruling party is right wing, and we differ from it in that we do not want a revanchist break directed against the military; we propose a process of consolidation of democracy proceeding from the situation that we have inherited. [quotation marks as received] He asserted that he was not the military candidate and that he does not feel obliged to follow "any officer's instructions" even though as president he is obliged to respect the stance of the Armed Forces, which "do have a say in this nation's progress." These works marked the end of my interview with the man whose job it is to implement, amid great difficulties, "Torrijism" without Torrijos.

PLANNING MINISTER DEPARTS FOR DEBT TALKS IN U.S.

PA030436 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 Apr 85

[Text] Planning Minister Ricaurte Vasquez will be in charge of refinancing the government's foreign debt during the 90-day moratorium. Vasquez said that the government represents from 30 to 35 percent of the country's economy which means that if the government has problems, the country's economy will be affected. A Planning Ministry spokesman reported that Minister Vasquez left this morning for the United States on a mission concerned with the renegotiation of the foreign debt.

COSTA RICA

AUTHORITIES CLAIM CAPTURE OF U.S. AGENT'S KILLER

PA031943 Paris AFP in Spanish 1849 GMT 4 Apr 85

[Text] San Jose, 4 Apr (AFP) -- This morning Costa Rican authorities detained the presumed assassin of U.S. narcotics agent Enrique Camarena, Security Minister Benjamin Piza reported today. The accused's name is Rafael Caro Quintero, of Mexican nationality. Four other Mexicans and a young girl, who alleged she had been kidnapped, were captured along with him. The detention occurred at 0600 in the port city of Puntarenas on the Pacific coast.

Kidnapped Niece of Mexican Official

PA042241 Paris AFP in Spanish 2148 GMT 4 Apr 85

[Text] San Jose 4 April (AFP) -- The authorities have confirmed here that Sara Cosio, "niece of the president of the Institutional Revolutionary Party of the Mexican capital," [as received] is the woman who was captured today with the alleged killer of Enrique Camarena, a U.S. narcotics agent. The young woman has argued that she was kidnapped by the drug trifficker, Rafael Caro Quintero, who was captured this morning at 0600 following an "intense shoot-out" that lasted 5 minutes, it has been reported. The arrest took place in Alajuela, northeast of the capital. The "four bodyguards" of Caro, who had in their possession "a small arsenal," were arrested with their boss, the sources noted.

NICARAGUAN EMBASSY PERSONNEL DISCREPANCY EXAMINED

PA040247 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 2 Apr 85

[Text] The Costa Rican Foreign Ministry is checking the list of officials in the Nicaraguan Embassy here as there is a discrepancy regarding eight persons, according to Foreign Ministry records. A list submitted by the Nicaraguan Embassy shows that 7 officials left the country several days ago, while 22 others left on Saturday. This means that, including the 10 officials remaining at the embassy, there is a total of 39, while the original list showed a total of 47 officials. Therefore, the Foreign Ministry said it is necessary to account for the other eight officials who are on the original list but not on either of the two new lists submitted by the Sandinist diplomatic mission.

Limit Exceeded by 5 Officials

PA041413 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 3 Apr 85

[Text] According to a count made by the Costa Rican Foreign Ministry, there are still five officials too many at the Nicaraguan Embassy. The foreign minister said today that Nicaraguan Ambassador Leonor Arguello has already been asked to complete the reduction process. Those five officials hold the post of consuls outside San Jose. There are still two consular officials in Liberia, two in Upala, and one is Paso Canoas. The minister said that the Nicaraguan Embassy was asked to make a clarification in order to ensure that the list of personnel conforms with the foreign minister's decision to allow no more than 10 officials in the Nicaraguan Embassy.

FOREIGN MINISTER VIEWS NEXT CONTADORA MEETING

PA041447 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 3 Apr 85

[Text] Costa Rican Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez said today that even though Colombian President Belisario Betancur's position on the proposal made by Costa Rica, Honduras, and El Salvador regarding verification and control in the Contadora Document is known, the position of Nicaragua and the other members of the Contadora Group is not known. Therefore, the foreign minister said, we cannot predict whether the 14-15 April meeting will be a success or whether our proposals will be incorporated in the Contadora Document.

[Begin recording] We do not know the Nicaraguan Government's position on this topic. We do not know what their reaction to our proposals will be. I have yet to receive, although I was told it would be delivered yesterday in Panama, the Contadora Group's proposal on supervision and control. We have yet to receive this documents. On Monday Deputy Foreign Minister Urbina spoke with Panamanian Deputy Foreign Minister Cabrera, who said that he hoped to call together the Central American ambassadors yesterday to present the document to them. I have not yet spoken with our embassy this morning to find out if a meeting was held yesterday. [end recording]

Nevertheless, the foreign minister said one cannot state that Nicaragua will maintain a negative position in this regard. He added that there is consensus on the aspects that do not deal with verification and control in the Contadora Document. Since the verification and control aspects are the points still pending, next week's meeting will concentrate on those subjects, Foreign Minister Gutierrez said.

On another topic, the foreign minister said there is a good possibility that the Costa Rican Government will grant asylum to Jose Manuel Urbina Lara. He said he has already received copies of Urbina Lara's answers to the questionnaire he was sent. In studying the answers one can see they are satisfactory. The Nicaraguan promises to respect the conditions for the right of asylum and recognizes that nonfulfillment of those conditions would mean cancellation of this right, the foreign minister said. He added that the government could issue the final decision on the Urbina Lara case at the end of next week but that President Monge must first be consulted so he can give his approval.

EL SALVADOR

DUARTE VOWS TO CONTINUE TALKS WITH FMLN-FDR

PA040033 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 30 Mar 85 p 3

[Text] President Jose Napoleon Duarte has stated that regardless of the results of tomorrow's elections for deputies and mayors, he will continue the dialogue with the FMLN-FDR "as a sign of my efforts to find a path for peace."

At a press conference held yesterday, Duarte said that "my willingness to hold talks and humanize the conflict will not end until the revels join the democratic process" and rejected the idea of waiting for "the right conditions because I returned from exile twice to find through the democratic process without waiting for any conditions," he said.

The second time, in 1969, when the 15 October coup d'etat was carried out, he added, "I came back to try and see if the right conditions existed, and on the ride from the airport to the capital the rebels tried to kill me twice." Guillermo Manuel Ungo was a member of the junta then and he refused to receive me. Now they are asking for better conditions, Duarte said.

The president said that no one can deny that during his administration the country has improved its image abroad, abuses of power have brought punishment, the activities of the "death squads" have decreased, the Armed Forces have become more professional, and most importantly, the dialogue was begun after he made his peace offer at the United Nations. The president also stated that the private sector should not be afraid if the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] obtains a majority at the Legislative Assembly because this would not mean there will be laws detrimental to the private sector. "Today we are supporting the private sector more than ever. The most eloquent example is the case of the cotton growers who have been granted funds at the official exchange rate to import fertilizer and have received payment for their sales on the parallel market." [not further explained] He also said that credit of up to 800 million colones has been granted to basic grain producers, and industries are being reactivated. This policy will be continued with the help of friendly countries obtained during this administration.

Duarte said that even if the rightist parties gain a majority in the legislative elections, he will continue his peace plan in the country in accordance with the terms of the Constitution that empower the executive branch to search for all possible means to achieve social peace and harmony among Salvadorans. In the past presidential elections, according to a document issued by the Central Electoral Council, the PDC obtained 549,727 votes, the Nationalist Republican Alliance, got 366,917 votes, and the National Conciliation Party got 244,556. The Democratic Action Party, which is the fourth-largest party, received 43,929.

'CITIZENS' URGE REAGAN TO STOP BACKING DUARTE

PA040204 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 30 Mar 85 pp 5, 57

[Text] The attitude of U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering is similár to that of his predecessors White, Chapin, and Hinton. His preference for the PDC is notorious. The situation in El Salvador has become worse as a result of the lack of decisions by the U.S. Government, especially by the State Department.

The above statements appear in a letter that a group of Salvadoran citizens have sent to U.S. President Ronald Reagan. A copy of that letter was delivered to EL DIARIO DE HOY. The letter states: San Salvador, 29 March 1985. Mr President of the United States, Honorable Ronald Reagan. Washington D.C. Mr President: The undersigned are Salvadoran citizens who sympathize with your conservative feelings. We want to inform you about our current situation and the attitude of Ambassador Thomas Pickering in El Salvador.

1. It is obvious to us that a search for peace through a dialogue and talks with guerrillas will lead to nothing but the imposition of Marxism-Leninism, as you know. The FMLN-FDR wants to impose communism on El Salvador with help from Soviet Cuba and Sandinist Nicaragua. Any effort by that subversive force to find a negotiated political solution is due ot its inability to defeat our Armed Forces. It also reflects its desire to consolidate the Sandinist regime in Nicaragua. That regime could find itself in danger if faced with a decisive U.S. action in the region. Its dialogue tactic is based on our people's sincere desire for peace, but due to the continued destruction of our economy, which hurts the poor peasants most of all, this tactic has become very unpopular.

2. Past experiences, especially those acquired by the United States following World War II, make it clear that it is impossible to reach an understanding with the communists. The appeasement policy of the United States with regard to the Soviets has been a total failure and has resulted in a Soviet Cuba, Vietnam, Afghanistan, Nicaragua, and others that will emerge if the mistaken "detente" policy is maintained.

On the other hand, the U.S. intervention in Grenada resolved the problems of communism and the Cuban and Soviet intervention in that small but strategic island. If it worked in Grenada why not in Central America?

3. Pickering's attitude is similar to that of his predecessors White, Chapin, and Hinton. His preference for the PDC is notorious. The situation in El Salvador has become worse because of the lack of decisions by your government, especially the State Department. Ambassador Pickering has openly supported the delegates of the AFL-CIO who publicly insulted our Supreme Court. He has meddled in internal politics and in affairs of the Armed Forces. This has upset many Salvadorans.

Had it not been for diplomatic pressure from your government and for the blackmailing by the U.S. Congress, which threatened nationalist parties with a halt to military and economic aid, Duarte and the Democrats would have never reached power. The result of this blackmail could not have been worse. Our economic situation, instead of improving, has grown worse. This is a direct result of the socializing policies of President Duarte, the same policies that you criticized when Democratic Party candidates Mondale and Ferraro proclaimed them.

If your political philosophy for the United States is conservative and you fa r anti-communism and private property, why accept the opposite for El Salvador?

In El Salvador, the PDC has little to do with democracy or Christianity although it has been able to fool many people with those nouns. They are more like the European social democrats, direct descendants of the Second International, or Socialist International, which was founded by Marx and now is completely supporting the terrorists in Central America.

It is absurd and contradictory that the U.S. Government should try to stop the communist aggression with socialist "reforms" that destroy our country's economy and contribute to a communist victory.

Without a doubt, the continuation of the Duart regime will bring more economic ruin, more dependence on the United States, and more problems for your government, which is already contributing to this war of attrition through a daily disbursement of $1.5 million from the U.S. taxpayers.

We are honorable Salvadorans and do not want to continue being U.S. puppets who permit El Salvador to be turned into a satellite of Washington, as Cuba and Nicaragua are satellites of the Kremlin.

Recently, Duarte and his party violated our new Constitution when they illegally vetoed the electoral bill proposed by the Legislative Assembly. In the United States, for less important reasons, President Richard Nixon was forced to resign. For these reasons, we are aware Salvadoran who refuse to accept communist hegemony in El Salvador expect from you and your government a more realistic attitude. Please do not continue fooling yourself about the current PDC regime, which will surely create problems for you in the near future.

Sincerely yours,

Ana Maria de Corrales, Ana Milagro de Alvarez, Miriam de Palomo, Maria Teresa Wright, Juan Urrutia Caceres, Carmen Urrutia G., Orlando de Sola, Raul Arevalo Barriere, Alfonso Escalante, Rafael M. Guillen, Carlos Giron S., Francisco Garcia Rosi, Gerardo Escalon Gomez, Aquilio C. Canesa S., Maria Teresa de Padoani, Revered Ricardo Fuentes Castellanos, General Antonio E. Aguirre, and Alfredo Mena.

There are more signatures.

GEN BLANDON 'SATISFIED' WITH ELECTORAL PROCESS

PA041534 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 2220 GMT 2 Apr 85

[Interview with General Adolfo Onecifero Blandon, chairman of the Salvadoran Joint Chiefs of Staff, by Carlos Mario Marquez at the Central Electoral Council in San Salvador -- live]

[Excerpt] [Marquez] General, this year elections took place in 263 municipalities according to spokesmen of various military garrisons. Is this due to increased military professionalism and the Army's ability to control the entire country during these elections?

[Blandon] Undoubtedly, the Salvadoran Armed Forces have advanced a great deal in their professionalization and this has allowed us to carry out the democratic process. Elections took place in 261 municipalities; the inhabitants of 241 of these 261 municipalities were able to vote in their hometowns. Voting in 20 municipalities was moved to various departmental capitals or nearby municipalities because they were affected by the war and their inhabitants forced to take refuge in the various departmental capitals. Regarding these municipalities which, I repeat number 20, voting was at ballot receiving boards relocated in various departmental capitals.

We had a problem in Anamoros, where the ballot receiving board and the municipal electoral board did not appear due to death threats by terrorist groups operating in northern La Union. The Armed Forces were present in Anamoros, but those threatened were so fearful they did not present themselves. These are situations that we cannot control. I can say that as a member of the Armed Forces I am very satisfied, because in the four elections that have taken place in El Salvador almost 100 percent of the municipalities voted. This undoubtedly demonstrates our democratic inclinations, not only of the Armed Forces but the Salvadoran people as well, because once again we have demonstrated our hope of achieving peace through elections.

[Marquez] Gen Blandon, President Duarte said yesterday at a press conference that El Salvador is experiencing a democratic process and that since his party won a majority of seats in the Legislative Assembly the peace dialogue with the rebels will be resumed. What do the Armed Forces think of President Duarte's statements?

[Blandon] I have said before that all efforts by the government or any other institution or organization for peace in the region are worthwhile, because we have experienced almost 5 years of war and the Salvadoran people are anxious for peace. The Armed Forces have always supported the government's peace efforts and will continue to do so on a constitutional basis and so long as the armed terrorists make logical and realistic proposals, not irresponsible ones such as those they made at the Ayagualo dialogue.

DEFENSE MINISTER EXPLAINS 'FREEDOM PLAN' PHASES

PA032329 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 1 Apr 85 pp 9, 41

[Text] The "Freedom Plan" is working successfully, General Carlos Eugenio Vides Casanova, defense minister, told reporters at the voting station in Santa Tecla yesterday morning.

He added that the "Freedom Plan" has five phases. The first one was carried out from 15 February to 15 March and consisted in protecting the Central Electoral Council, the computing center, and the members of that organization. The second phase covered the period 15-29 March, during which the Armed Forces carried out search operations, and destroyed terrorist redoubts throughout the territory in order to weaken and destroy the plans to sabotage the elections. The third phase consisted of protecting voters at each voting place in the country. He said that according to reports everything was proceeding normally.

Gen Vides Casanova, who was accompanied by Colonel Reynaldo Lopez Nuila, deputy security minister, to observe the progress of the elections, said that the fourth phase will be to provide protection during the vote count to guarantee the honesty of the elections. The "Freedom Plan" will end on 1 May when the new officials will be sworn in, the defense minister stressed. He indicated that this plan includes all the necessary measures and actions to guarantee the security of the elections on the national level in an effort to boost the democratic process in the country and guarantee that the citizens can freely exercise their right to choose their officials through voting.

GUERRILLAS LAUNCH FIRST OPERATION SINCE ELECTIONS

PA041616 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 3 Apr 85

[Text] Cuscatlan -- Military units in Cuscatlan Department today continued their counter-insurgency operations. Early today rebels seized the town of Santa Cruz Michapa and set fire to the municipal mayor's office. In the course of this action they killed a soldier and seriously injured others, including four members of the civilian population. This is the first rebel action since the 31 March elections. This was also the 24th mayor's office destroyed by the rebels as part of this year's new campaign. Hundreds of people displaced from Tenancingo live in Santa Cruz Michapa, and at dawn today they experienced moments of terror reminiscent of the grave incidents that occurred in September 1983, when fighting resulted in over 30 deaths in Tenancingo, thus beginning an exodus that has kept them nomads a mere 10 km from their own homes.

FMLN-FDR'S ZAMORA DISCUSSES ELECTION, DIALOGUE

PA040351 Paris AFP in Spanish 1444 GMT 2 Apr 85

[Text] Rome, 2 Apr (AFP) -- Ruben Zamora, second leader of the FMLN-FDR (opposition) in El Salvador, said here today that the low number of people participating in his country's elections last Sunday proves that the people "are not interested" in the elections because "these will solve nothing."

The FMLN-FDR political-military alliance did not participate in Sunday's elections "because the minimum conditions to express the people's will were not given," Zamora explained during a press conference. The member of the FMLN-FDR Political-Diplomatic Commission is visiting Italy at the invitation of the city of Turin, where he will give several lectures.

The elections will not change the balance of forces in the country, even though "they will have a certain influence," Zamora asserted. He said that the only alternative is "to renew the dialogue and negotiations (the second and last meeting with the government was held in November with the church's mediation) regardless of the electoral results."

Referring to the Reagan administration, Zamora said that it "is opposed" to a dialogue and "is still considering a military, not political, alternative." In addition, he asserted his "astonishment" over the congratulatory messages sent to President Jose Napoleon Duarte by some governments, "even though there are still no official results" of the elections. Yesterday, Italian Government leader Bettino Craxi congratulated Duarte for the "people's broad support for his party in the elections."

Generally speaking, all the political sectors have acknowledged a diminished participation in the elections, including the extreme right Nationalist Republican Alliance and Duarte's Christian Democratic Party [PDC]. "This was perceived by all the fronts," said Zamora, who recalled that "the people are tired and the war continues, despite the elections."

According to Zamora, the dialogue should have been resumed last January but was postponed several times. It was mainly interrupted because "there prevails a problem in the government's balance of powers." He said: An "important" sector of the Army and business sector oppose the dialogue while the FMLN-FDR, church, unions, part of the PDC, part of the business sector, and the Armed Forces' middle echelon advocate the dialogue. "The Army has sustained the largest number of casualties in the war during the past 6 months," said Zamora without giving figures, even though the Army has increased its weaponry: 50 helicopter gunships (it had 2 in 1982) and U.S. AC-47 airplanes.

He stressed: "The United States is making the same mistake in El Salvador that it made in Vietnam: technology helps in a liberation war, but it is not a decisive factor."

Zamora also revealed that according to the church's figures, the "death squads" have increased their actions in El Salvador by 40 percent so far this year. Due to the Army's increased technology, "the number of dead in the countryside has increased."

Referring to the East-West dialogue, the Salvadoran leader discarded the possibility that it may have "political" repercussions on Central America, because the United States will always consider it his "backyard." He concluded: However, the dialogue started in El Salvador "has given the front closer relations with European governments because all of them, either socialists or not, advocate a negotiated solution" and have consolidated the efforts exerted by the Contadora Group (Colombia, Venezuela, Mexico, and Panama) in favor of a political solution.

U.S. ADVISERS ACCUSED OF RUNNING ELECTIONS

PA041553 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 2300 GMT 3 Apr 85

[Text] U.S. advisers are grabbing the bull by the horns in the country's eastern region. On 31 March, when the elections were taking place in Berlin, the measures and system used for the voting booths did not guarantee the secrecy of the vote because those at the voting table were able to see very well who the people were voting for.

At 1200 a Salvadoran Air Force helicopter appeared. Four dead soldiers were unloaded from it. Two gringo advisers also got out of the helicopter. They picked up the ballots and the boxes and took them to San Miguel with them. Everyone was surprised and were wondering about this insult. These U.S. advisers took the ballots and the boxes when the elections were not yet over. Many people were unable to vote. The people are asking: Why do Americans run these elections?

In addition, our correspondent at the eastern front reported that there were no elections in certain towns of Usulutan Department. She indicated that Atonal Battalion and 6th Infantry Brigade members were present at certain places to guarantee the elections, but, as happened in San Agustin and San Francisco Javier, they were unable to hold the elections.

HONDURAS

SUPREME COURT PRESIDENT'S ATTORNEY FILES APPEALS

PA041403 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1230 GMT 4 Apr 85

[Text] Last night deputies and newsmen covering the National Congress found themselves unexpectedly in the midst of a blackout while they were holding an important session in the National Congress. Lawyer Efrain Bu Giron and the opposition deputies described this development as obstruction by the public sector. Was there really ill will on the part of the electrical company, or was it merely a technical difficulty? Through a ham radio operator we managed to obtain a recording of important dialogue and several technicians of the National Enterprise for Electrical Power who were trying to solve the problem. We will air this information in a few minutes.

In the meantime, here are statements by the attorney of Supreme Court of Justice President Ramon Valladares Soto, against whom an arrest warrant [auto de prision] was issued yesterday. His attorney, Edgardo Caceres Castellanos, confirms for our listeners that an arrest warrant has been read [leido] to Valladares Soto.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] We are here with lawyer Caceres Castellanos, defense lawyer of Supreme Court of Justice President Valladares Soto, against whom an arrest warrant has been issued. Can you confirm this?

[Caceres Castellanos] Yes, at this moment lawyer Valladares Soto has been notified by the First Criminal Court about the arrest warrant issued against him for alleged crimes of treason and crimes against the Honduran state's form of government. We have filed an appeal for reversal [recurso de reposicion] and (?an ancillary) appeal, as the law empowers us to do.

[Reporter] You filed the appeal in the same court?

[Caceres Castellanos] Yes. This appeal is filed in the same tribunal, before the corresponding court of appeals, which is the one that would hear the appeal should the reversal be turned down by the judge [word indistinct].

[Reporter] How did Valladares Soto receive this news?

[Caceres Castellanos] With great serenity, because like all of us he knows he has not committed the crimes with which he has been illegally charged.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Caceres Castellanos] No, no, it is not viable. We are expecting the results of the appeals filed just now.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Caceres Castellanos] Well, as the judicial authorities will not be working these days and several tribunals which should have been working until 1700 -- including the Supreme Court of Justice -- have closed their offices at 1200, as is easily verifiable and shows the seriousness with which justice is handled here -- it will not be until Monday that the judge will begin reviewing the appeal for reversal and the ancillary appeal filed, in order to hand down a decision. [end recording]

NICARAGUA

EMBASSY IN U.S. REJECTS REAGAN DIALOGUE PROPOSAL

PA050320 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0200 GMT 5 Apr 85

[Text] Washington, 4 Apr (DPA) -- Colombian President Belisario Betancur left Washington today at the end of a visit to the United States that lasted several days. According to diplomatic sources, he left for Managua to discuss with that country's president, Daniel Ortega, the proposal made to Nicaragua today by President Ronald Reagan. Before his departure, the Colombian president described Reagan's proposal for direct talks between the Sandinist government and the rebels as "constructive." Questioned about an alleged stopover in Managua, Betancur did not deny it; however, neither did he give confirmation. State Department officials said that such an initiative would not be a surprise.

Meanwhile, the Nicaraguan Embassy in Washington published a statement rejecting the Reagan plan as "nothing but another publicity stunt" to win more support for the rebels, and warned that "Nicaragua will never negotiate with this group created by the CIA."

After his meeting with Betancur, Reagan asked Congress to approve the $14 million in aid to the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries and added that during a period of 60 days those funds will be used for humanitarian aid. However, if the 60 days expires and there are no negotiations between the government and the rebels, the funds will be used for military aid. Betancur told the press that Reagan's proposal grants a period of time and coincides with the peace proposal made by the Contadora Group (Colombia, Panama, Venezuela, and Colombia), which the United States rejects.

ORTEGA, COLOMBIA'S BETANCUR MEET 31 MARCH

PA030230 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 1 Apr 85

[Excerpts] Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, president of Nicaragua, welcomed Colombian President Belisario Betancur at the Augusto Cesar Sandino Airport yesterday. President Betancur is visiting Central American countries and Mexico prior to his meeting in Washington with President Ronald Reagan.

Colombia is a member of the Contadora Group and Reagan has threatened to disregard the jurisdiction of this young, prestigious international body that is accepted in the world as the means to solving the Central American conflict. He has threatened to take the problem to the OAS to which he has already issued this warning.

The two presidents held private talks for 2 hours and 15 minutes in the protocol room of the international airport. At the end of the talks, President Ortega Saavedra introduced the Colombian president:

[Begin recording] We are aware of Colombia's concern over the Central American problems, the efforts it has been making for peace, and the extraordinary efforts that President Betancur has been undertaking to find a political solution through dialogue so that peace will be achieved in Central America. We have had the opportunity to speak at length with President Betancur as part of that permanent effort for peace in Central America, Latin America, and the world. We are happy to have him here in Nicaragua and to speak with him about Central American problems with the hope that they will be overcome and that peace will be achieved in our region. [end recording]

On his part, President Betancur held a brief press conference due to his tight schedule. He had to fly to Tegucigalpa, Honduras, where he would be welcomed by President Roberto Suazo Cordova at 1750. President Betancur replied to some questions:

[Begin recording] When I accepted U.S. President Reagan's invitation to make a 3-day working visit on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of next week, I decided to visit Central America and to speak with my counterparts, the Contadora Group presidents, to reexamine the situation and have exhaustive, updated information on the Central American reality. Yesterday, I spoke with Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi, former President Carlos Andres Perez, and the Venezuelan government team. This morning I did the same with Panamanian President Ardito Barletta and his foreign minister. At noon I had lunch with President Luis Alberto Monge, Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez, and the Costa Rican Government team. Now I have had the honor and pleasure of holding talks with President Ortega on the Central American topics that, as he put it, are being analyzed by the Contadora Group and specifically by Colombia in search of the consolidation of peace in the Central American region. I think we could be near an overall solution to the Central American problem. In this overall solution, the bilateral solution of existing conflicts would be obviously implicit. In this regard, I think that the renewal of the bilateral talks in Manzanillo could be a very pragmatic and healthy element that would complement the renewal of the Contadora observations and analyses. [end recording]

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT RETURNS FROM HUNGARY

PA040008 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 2 Apr 85

[Text] Commander Carlos Nunez Tellez, president of the Nicaraguan National Assembly, yesterday returned to Nicaragua from Hungary, where he represented the FSLN at the 13th Congress of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party [MSZMP]. During the congress, incumbent Janos Kadar, first secretary of the MSZMP, was elected to another term in office. Nunez Tellez was greeted at the Augusto Cesar Sandino International Airport by Interior Minister Tomas Borge and officials of the FSLN's Department of International Relations.

JUSTICE MINISTER ON HANDLING 'GOVERNMENT'S ENEMIES'

PA300409 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Berlin, GDR -- Nicaraguan Justice Minister Ernesto Castillo has said that a direct military confrontation with the United States can be prevented through greater defense efforts, Nicaragua's pro-peace efforts, and the Contadora Group's efforts. Tito Castillo reaffirmed the revolutionary government's willingness to contribute to solving existing problems by way of negotiations, by adopting its own initiatives, and by supporting the Contadora Group's efforts. When interviewed by reporters in Berlin on the handling of the revolutionary government's enemies, the justice minister said that strict judicial laws are applied, and added that at present there are former Somozist guards and allies of that regime under arrest.

During his stay of several days in the GDR, Dr Castillo met with his counterpart and leaders of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany.

FRG DEPUTY EXPRESSES SUPPORT FOR CONTADORA

PA040212 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Apr 85

[Text] FRG Deputy Lorenz Niegel has expressed his support for the Contadora Group efforts and stressed the need to continue with the negotiations to find a solution to the Central American conflict.

The FRG deputy met with leaders of the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Nicaraguan Democratic Coordinating Board, with Msgr Miguel Obando y Bravo, and with representatives of the Social Christian Party before departing for Costa Rica. When asked his opinion about the U.S. Government's actions to sabotage the Contadora Group's efforts, Niegel said that he opposes the use of force and stressed his support for any kind of dialogue.

NONALIGNED DELEGATION TOURS REGION 6

PA032302 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 2 Apr 85

[Excerpts] The group of friends of the president of the Coordinating Board of the Nonaligned Movement has concluded its visit to Nicaragua. The group toured Region 6 with Nicaraguan Deputy Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco and Julio Icaza and Javier Chamorro Mora, Nicaragua's permanent and alternate representatives to the United Nations. They visited the German Pomares Ordonez Hospital, where they were greeted by Diogenes Martinez, minister delegate to Region 6; Noel Escobar, delegate in Region 6 of the Defense and Security Council; and Commander Jose Valdivia, who briefed the delegation on the military situation in the area.

Before the group's departure, its leader, (Natarajan Krishnan), addressed a message to the Nicaraguan people:

[Begin recording] I would like to say that all of us have been very much impressed. We have listened with much interest and attention to the explanations and presentations that the Nicaraguan leaders have offered us. Now we will analyze them. [end recording]

TAIWAN DENIES COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY INVOLVEMENT

PA302358 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] The Government of Taiwan has never aided, and never will aid in any way, the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries, according to a communique released by the Embassy of Taiwan in our country.

The Chinese diplomatic note released yesterday refers to recent reports in THE NEW YORK TIMES claiming that the Reagan administration's plans to ask the governments of some Asian countries to lend military and financial aid to the counterrevolutionaries who betray and abuse the Nicaraguan people. On 6 March, the U.S. press also quoted, according to the communique, parliamentary sources who mentioned Thailand and Taiwan as countries possibly involved in lending military and financial aid to the counter-revolutionary forces, promoted and financed by the Reagan administration.

Following instructions from our government, according to the statement from the Embassy of Taiwan in Managua, we reiterate that China greatly values the relations of friendship and cooperation which exist between our two countries; that we have never aided, and will never aid in any way, the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionary groups.

PEMEX DIRECTOR CONFIRMS OIL SALES FROM MEXICO

PA031922 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 2 Apr 85

[Text] Mexico will supply oil to Nicaragua as was agreed by the two nations, Mario Beteta, general director of PEMEX, has stated. Beteta has denied that Mexico has suspended its oil sales to Nicaragua, pointing out that they will take place according to the provisions of the San Jose agreement.

WHEELOCK ANNOUNCES NEW COTTON PRICES, TAX

PA281432 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Jaime Wheelock Roman, commander of the revolution and minister of agricultural-livestock development and agrarian reform, announced today that the price of cotton per quintal has been raised from 1,400 to 2,200 cordobas for producers to guarantee it will be a profitable activity. This new price means that the cost per manzana will be 16,926 cordobas, which does not include the commercialization cost. Commander Wheelock also announced a new tax for cotton ginning of 60 cordobas per quintal.

Thus far, 4,388,650 quintales have been harvested out of an estimated production of 5 million quintals from the 165,000 manzanas of cotton crops. The current cotton harvest will produce about $135 million, including the value of the seeds used in the production of cooking oil. More than 4 million quintals, equivalent to 93 percent of the unpicked cotton, have been ginned. The 1984-85 cotton harvest is expected to end during the last 2 weeks of April with an average yield of 30 quintals per manzana.

CHIEF JUSTICE APPOINTMENT ALTERS COURT BALANCE

PA290327 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 27 Mar 85 pp 1, 10

[Excerpts] Through an executive branch decree signed by President Daniel Ortega, Alejandro Serrano Caldera, former secretary general of the National Autonomous University of Nicaragua, UNAM, and currently ambassador to France, was appointed chief justice of the Supreme Court. Serrano Caldera's appointment leaves the independent members of the court as a minority, which can affect the nature of the court's rulings.

Roberto Arguello Hurtado, current chief justice and member of the FSLN, will replace Serrano Caldera as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to France, as reported in the decree issued today.

Serrano Caldera's appointment as chief justice should have been made by the National Assembly, according to the Constitution of the present regime, but in view of the absolutist power granted to the president of the Republic, he has the power to make appointments of this type and also to make laws.

Serrano Caldera's appointment is the result of the power granted to the president of the Republic in the bylaws of the National Assembly, which were approved by an overwhelming majority last week after violent discussions among members of the opposition political parties and the FSLN.

The judicial branch is now in the hands of another member of the FSLN, who will be sworn in by the president, as soon as the new ambassador has been accepted by the French Government.

Serrano Caldera is considered a strong Marxist-Leninist ideologist. His appointment as chief justice of the Supreme Court has caused much surprise among political circles, especially, among the lawyers. His appointment took everyone by surprise. His appointment alters the balance that existed in the Supreme Court, which had been enjoying some sort of independence. As it stands now, four justices are Sandinists and three democrats. While he was the ambassador to France, Serrano Caldera represented Nicaragua in very important missions in European countries. He also represented Nicaragua at the FAO, UNESCO and to the Italian Government and held the rank of extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador and special envoy.

DEFENSE MINISTRY RECOUNTS CONTRA ACTIONS

PA040214 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 1 Apr 85 p 5

[Bulletin issued by the Defense Ministry in Managua on 31 March]

[Text] This bulletin covers 16 to 31 March. The Sandinist People's Army [EPS] inflicted 91 casualties, of which 75 were fatal, on counterrevolutionary forces operating in various parts of the country, particularly in the northern region. During this period there were a total of 23 clashes between EPS regular, militia, and reserve troops and the Somozist mercenaries. These clashes include: On 16 March, EPS troops clashed with Somozist mercenaries in a sector known as San Jose de las Vegas, southeast of Matiguas, where the EPS inflicted six casualties on the Somozists.

Between 16 and 21 March, there were clashes at a place known as La Explosion Hill, north of San Fernando in Nueva Segovia Department, where our troops inflicted a total of 14 casualties on the mercenaries. A clash occurred at La Explosion Hill again. Our troops inflicted 22 casualties on the enemy.

On 26 March, EPS troops clashed with the enemy at El Cacao Hill, northeast of Matiguas, killing eight counterrevolutionaries. On 29 March, fighting ensued near the operational support base in Santa Rosa, southwest of San Pedro del Norte, Zelaya Department, but the results of this clash were not obtained.

Also during this period the mercenaries continued their criminal actions against our working people, carrying out various actions such as ambushes, attacks, and kidnappings, which resulted in 4 civilians killed or wounded and 54 people kidnapped.

These actions included the following: On 17 March, the counterrevolutionaries ambushed a civilian station wagon in San Jose Bocay, southeast of Jinotega, with five people inside. One person, an official of the Education Ministry, was wounded in this attack.

On 18 March, a Construction Ministry truck and two station wagons were ambushed in Paiwitas, southeast of Rio Blanco, Matagalpa Department. One person was killed and two persons were kidnapped during this incident.

On 18 March, three families were abducted in an area known as California Hill, southeast of Murra, Nueva Segovia Department. They were forcibly taken to Honduras.

On the same day, the mercenaries kidnapped 24 people in Villa Paredes, southeast of Murra.

A peasant family was also kidnapped in Paiwitas, southwest of Rio Blanco in Matagalpa Department on the same day.

On 19 March, the mercenaries kidnapped six peasants in the Loma Alta sector, northeast of San Rafael del Norte in Jinotega Department.

On 21 March, the mercenaries kidnapped three people northeast of Samoapa. They were members of the Revolution State Producution Unit which was attacked by the counterrevolutionaries.

On the same day Somozist groups attacked the Tanquil sector, 10 km from Jalapa. They burned three tobacco warehouses and killed three civilians.

On 25 March, the mercenaries kidnapped eight people in Yale, 13 km from Matagalpa.

On 29 March, the mercenaries intercepted two fuel trucks belonging to the Construction Ministry in the Jesus Maria sector, 41 km southeast of Acoyapa in Chontales Department, and spilled 2,000 gallons of gasoline and 4,000 gallons of diesel fuel carried by these trucks.

FIRST WOMAN POLICE DIRECTORATE CHIEF APPOINTED

PA032208 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 Apr 85

[Communique issued by the Interior Ministry in Managua on 2 April]

[Text] Exercising his legal authority, Interior Minister Tomas Borge has appointed Commander Doris Tijerino Haslam national chief of the Sandinist Police General Directorate.

Commander Tijerino, who has an extensive revolutionary record, is the first woman in the world to occupy a post of this nature.

The interior minister is absolutely sure that with this appointment the Sandinist Police have been strengthened.

BRIEFS

NEW RADIO SANDINO DIRECTOR -- Rodolfo Tapia Molina, well-known Nicaraguan newscaster and founder of the "Radio Information" newscast, was appointed general director of Radio Sandino yesterday, 1 April. Emigdio Suarez Tapia Molina was named director of "Radio Information." [Summary] [Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 2 Apr 85 pp 1, 8 PA]

SPANISH PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION VISITS

Meets With Flavio Bravo

FL021856 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 2 Apr 85

[Text] Flavio Bravo, president of the National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP] and the delegation from the Andalusia parliament, which is visiting Cuba headed by its president Antonio Ojeda Escobar, have held discussions. During the talks, Flavio Bravo explained to the visitors various aspects of the ANPP's work and its achievements in the fields of education and health.

Ojeda Escobar expressed the friendship Spaniards feel for the Cuban people and said that many Spaniards come to visit to learn about the Cuban revolution firsthand.

Meeting With Education Minister

FL041756 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 4 Apr 85

[Text] Jose Ramon Fernandez, vice president of the Council of Ministers and minister of education, has met with the delegation from the parliament of Andalusia, Spain, which is headed by its president Antonio Ojeda Escobar, at the Ministry of Education. Fernandez gave the visitors a detailed explanation of the deveopment of education at all levels and future educational plans. He also referred to the resources which the state invests each year in developing educational projects and the help Cuba provides in this field to other countries.

ECUADORAN PRESIDENT TO VISIT IN MID-APRIL

FL011454 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 1 Apr 85

[Text] President of Ecuador Leon Febres Cordero will visit Cuba at the invitation of Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz, president of the Council of State and Ministers. The visit will take place in mid-April.

LAS TUNAS PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT ELECTED

FL021403 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 2 Apr 85

[Text] Julian Lopez Hernandez has been elected president of the Provincial Assembly of the People's Government in Las Tunas during an extraordinary session. Lopez Hernandez is replacing Roberto Ogando who was unanimously released from this post by the delegates so he can assume his new position as minister of light industry. Lopez Hernandez was party Executive Bureau member in Las Tunas in charge of organizational affairs.

Roberto Ogando thanked the party, delegates, leaders, and Las Tunas people for their support. He pledged to work hard in the new position assigned to him by the Council of State.

CULTURE MINISTER HART PRESIDES OVER MEETING

FL042232 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2130 GMT 4 Apr 85

[Text] With Minister of Culture and Politburo member Armando Hart Davalos presiding, the second national meeting of municipal directors of culture began today at the Higher Institute for the Direction of the Economy. The basic objectives of this meeting are to study aspects of the cultural effort, to exchange information on experience, and to provide assistance in establishing additional positions of municipal directors.

PEDRO MIRET CHAIRS SPARE PARTS MEETING

FL280250 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] The Cuban National Committee on Spare Parts today held an important meeting in Havana attended by Pedro Miret, Politburo member and vice president of the Council of Ministers. Officials who attended the meeting agreed to push for decreasing slow-moving inventories and were given information on growth in spare parts manufacturing and rebuilding during the next 5-year period. Pedro Miret reiterated the necessity for an increased effort to manufacture products now imported.

FERNANDEZ MELL PRESIDES OVER INTERMINISTERIAL MEET

FL042256 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2130 GMT 4 Apr 85

[Excerpts] An interministerial coordination meeting to study the problem of the contamination of the Almendares River and its tributaries was held this morning. Oscar Fernandez Mell, Central Committee member and president of the Executive Committee of the Provincial Assembly of the People's Government in City of Havana Province, presided over the meeting. Fernandez Mell reported that the 77 sources of contamination investigated, none has adopted the pertinent measures for treatment of waste waters and many were consuming excessive amounts of water.

DROUGHT AFFECTS LIVESTOCK IN CIEGO DE AVILA

FL021920 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 2 Apr 85

[Text] Due to the lengthy drought in Ciego de Avila Province, more than 29,000 cattle from state enterprises are receiving, in corrals, food such as fodder, sugercane by-products from warehouses, honey, urea, (torula), and citrus and pineapple waste products. The program to counteract the lack of rain includes the installation of 50 windmills in areas where water levels warrant this investment.

BONUS SYSTEM INSTITUTED IN PRODUCTION BRIGADES

FL021802 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1425 GMT 2 Apr 85

[Text] The use of permanent production brigades was expanded this year to cover 73 Cuban agricultural and forestry enterprises and more than 89,400 workers.

Since last year, 52,500 workers received bonuses under this new system, receiving 12.5 million pesos in additional pay. Total economic results obtained in 65 enterprises which operated with permanent production brigades were evaluated as very positive. In these groups, the collectives had a 15 percent increase in productivity, more than 9 percent increase in goods production, and 11 percent in the goal compared with production in 1983.

FAR TO INCREASE MILITARY PREPAREDNESS

FL280126 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] The list of obligations with which the Army's, Armed Forces units and other principal FAR commands will salute the Communist Party of Cuba's third congress was presented to Division General Abelardo Colome Ibarra, alternate Politburo member and first vice FAR minister, at the FAR Ministry offices. The document compiles the concrete tasks which FAR personnel will conduct to salute the Cuban Communists most important meeting. The main objective of the obligations is to increase combat preparedness and the military and political-ideological work in general.

JORGE ON NECESSITY OF ECONOMIC ADJUSTMENTS

FL041210 Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 29 Mar 85 pp 1, 12

[By Maximo Manuel Perez]

[Excerpts] Nagua -- President Salvador Jorge Blanco said here yesterday that the government will maintain in effect its economic adjustment measures and that his greatest efforts would be directed at trying to create a greater awareness among Dominicans on the necessity of these measures. He said that the government would preserve public order and would guarantee peace and institutional democracy if public protests were to start over any measure or act.

In statements to foreign correspondents who asked about the country's economic and political situation, Jorge Blanco said that current government measures besides being unpopular are indispensable for reorganizing the economy and strengthening the country's international credit over the next few years.

Jorge Blanco said he also believed that the Dominican Revolutionary Party and Reformist Party should run a coalition candidate in the next elections.

REACTION TO REPORT ON ALLEGED LEFTIST CONSPIRACY

Former President Comments

FL041447 Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 28 Mar 85 pp 1, 14

[By Manuel Silvestre]

[Excerpts] Former President Joaquin Balaguer said yesterday that the announcement made by the Armed Forces and National Police about leftist groups planning to hold in April "actions which would tend to undermine public order and peace was issued to create undue alarm." The leader of the Social Christian Reformist Party said that "the authorities want to prevent any supposed subversion from occurring".

The Armed Forces and National Police issued separate communiques yesterday in which they stated that their security organizations had found out that government opposition political groups were preparing to carry out such actions and said that they would not allow public order or national peace to be disrupted.

Dr Balaguer said the two announcements were unnecessary at this time, and that he doubted that politicians or political sectors were involved in any such scheming.

PQD President

FL291400 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 29 Mar 85

[Text] The president of the Democratic Quisqueyan Party [PQD] does not believe that at the present time any political sector is drawing up plans to destabilize the constitutional order. Retired General Elias Wessin y Wessin described as exaggerated the reports the government intelligence organizations have received on actions planned to disrupt domestic peace and public order this coming April. Wessin y Wessin said: What may be happening is that there are reports of plans to hold meetings on the anniversary of the horrible crimes -- perhaps the worst committed in the present century -- that were committed on 24, 25, and 26 April last year.

POLICE ARREST THREE LEFTIST GROUP MEMBERS

FL041410 Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 28 Mar 85 p 14

[Excerpt] The National Police surrounded several houses yesterday and detained three members of leftist groups. Those arrested were Eligio Daniel Rincon, Gabriel Fortuna, and Leo Liranzo, who were taken to the Secret Service Department.

The arrests were made 24 hours after the Armed Forces and National Police issued separate communiques in which they stated that sectors which are enemies of peace and tranquillity were planning to carry out disturbances in April.

LEFTIST FRONT OFFICIAL ON POSSIBLE PROTESTS

FL041114 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 4 Apr 85

[Text] The Dominican Leftist Front has warned that announcements of new price increases of basic foodstuffs could provoke protesting over the next few days.

Bernardo Mercedes, an engineer, speaking on behalf of the front, said the price increases would be an effort to buy time. If to this we add the problem of the scarcity and the increased cost of rice, this matter is even more serious, said Mercedes. Mercedes said the increasing cost of living is the most serious (?conspiracy) against the democratic stability of the country.

HAITI TO HELP BUILD INTERNATIONAL DAM

FL252352 Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 16 Mar 85 pp 1, 10

[Excerpt] The Governments of Haiti and the Dominican Republic will build an international dam on the Masacre River on the border between the two countries. On the Dominican side the National Institute of Water Resources [Indrhi] will be in charge of construction. The institute yesterday hosted a meeting of the joint committee from the two governments to discuss details of the project. The dam will be built near Dajabon, and will be used for irrigating extensive areas in both countries and for generating electricity, according to Erasmo de Leon, Indrhi under director and president of the Dominican technical committee.

GOVERNMENT PLANS TO DEPORT THOUSANDS OF HAITIANS

FL031539 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 3 Apr 85

[Text] In the Dominican Republic, a judge has asked the Army and police to aid in the immediate mass deportation of thousands of Haitians living illegally in the Province of Azusa, about 75 miles southeast of Santo Domingo.

Haitian workers often travel east to the Dominican Republic to help process its annual sugar crop and then stay in the country illegally.

COMMUNITY EXPORTS TO UNITED KINGDOM INCREASE

FL291752 Bridgetown CANA in English 2256 GMT 28 Mar 85

[By Irvine Reid]

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, March 28, CANA -- Exports by 12 Caribbean Community (Caricom) countries to the United Kingdom rose by 52 per cent last year, according to statistics issued by the British High Commission.

The countries sold Britain 146.8 million pounds sterling more in goods last year. The value of their combined imports rose by 117.6 million pounds or 31.6 per cent. Total exports from Caricom to the UK were worth 428 million sterling as against 281.2 million pounds in 1983. The High Commission's trade report showed that imports from Britain moved from 371.1 million pounds in 1983 to 488.7 million. Caricom exports included sugar, rum, bananas, yams, nutmegs and cocoa.

Trade sources said the good export performance was due in some measure to the strength of Caribbean currencies, tied to the U.S. dollar, against the pound. Of the Caricom states, only Belize is not mentioned in the report.

Trinidad and Togabo is Britain's largest Caribbean trade partner. Exports from Port-of-Spain in 1984 were valued at 164.7 million pounds and imports were worth 113.3 million pounds, giving the West Indian republic a sizeable surplus.

Jamaica sold 77.9 million pounds in goods last year and bought 48.1 million pounds worth of items. Barbados' exports were put at 22.5 million pounds as against imports valued at 30.7 million pounds.

Last year's exports by the Bahamas to the United Kingdom reached 38.5 million pounds but imports shot up to 220.4 million pounds sterling from 17.8 million dollars in 1983.

Guyana sold the United Kingdom 57.9 million pounds worth of items and bought goods valued at 14.8 million pounds.

Other Caricom countries exporting goods to the UK last year were Antigua and Barbuda 8 million pounds sterling, Dominica 15 million pounds, Grenada 5.7 million pounds, St Kitts and Nevis 2.1 million pounds, St Lucia 28.6 million pounds and St Vincent and the Grenadines 14.2 million pounds.

GRENADA

CANADIAN COMPANY TO COMPLETE PORT SALINES AIRPORT

FL021946 Bridgetown CANA in English 1827 GMT 2 Apr 85

[Excerpt] Kingston, Jamaica, April 2, CANA -- The Montreal company Janin Construction (1983) Ltd has signed a Canadian 4.485 million dollar contract with the Government of Grenada to complete construction of the new airport at Point Salines, Canada's External Relations Minister Monique Vezina has announced.

According to the Canadian High Commission here, the contract is part of a 7.7 million dollar commitment by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) to assist in providing Grenada with a modern international airport considered essential for the island to exploit its tourist potential and reduce unemployment. Monenco Engineering Consultants of Toronto have been hired by CIDA as the executing agency for the project.

The work to be undertaken by Janin will include coastal protection for the runway, construction of a sewage treatment plant for the air terminal building, site preparation for the installation of navigational equipment, preparation of the harbour for emergency marine rescue vessels, and general airport landscaping.

JAMAICA

BANKS CONTINUE EFFORTS TO TIGHTEN CREDIT

FL272004 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Jamaican banking officials are continuing efforts to tighten credit and bolster the Jamaican dollar. Effective April 1, Jamaican banks will be lending money at an interest rate of 30 percent, which is expected to discourage borrowing. At the same time the interest paid on deposits will be 18 percent.

The director of Jamaica's largest bank, the government-owned National Commercial Bank, has resigned in protest, saying the government's banking policies are unsafe. An executive of the building society sector says they may stop providing mortgage money because by law, they are limited to lending money at 16 percent. That's 3 percent lower than the new rate of deposit in commercial banks.

Prime Minister Edward Seaga's administration says the credit squeeze is designed to reduce the amount of cash in circulation and that in turn, is expected to reduce the amount of money available for those who make bids in the Bank of Jamaica's foreign exchange auction, which sets the rate of exchange for the Jamaican dollar.

NETHERLANDS ANTILLES

GOVERNMENT, UNIONS REACH TENTATIVE AGREEMENTS

FL011650 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 1 Apr 85

[Text] In Aruba, the government and three public servant unions have reached a tentative agreement on proposed wage cuts that sparked 5 days of demonstrations from the 3,000 affected employees last month. According to the agreement, the workers accepted a 7 and 3/4 percent wage cut as of today, instead of the 10 percent cut proposed by the government. A percentage of the wage cut will go on to a worker economic development fund and into a medical fund.

The wage cuts will save the Aruban Government $3.8 million a year in salaries and help offset a $59 million deficit in its 1985 budget.

EXXON-OWNED REFINERY CLOSES OPERATIONS

FL011755 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 1 Apr 85

[Text] The Exxon-owned Lago oil refinery has closed its doors after 60 years of operations. Lago shut down yesterday due to what officials called unfavorable market conditions and an inability to reach a favorable crude oil supply agreement with Venezuela. Some 900 Lago employees have collected severance checks totaling $35 million, an average of $40,000 per worker. Of the 900 employees, about 150 will go back to work today for another 2 months while the refinery winds up operations.

Exxon, meantime, has established a new marketing company which will begin importing gasoline, fuel, oil, and cooking gas, formerly produced locally by Lago.

Because of the added transportation costs, officials have announced a two-stage program that will increase the price of gasoline for Arubans by 10 percent by April 15 and the cost of a 100 lb cylinder of cooking gas as will rise 18 percent beginning today.

The closing of the Lago refinery dealt a major blow to Aruba's economy. The refinery payed taxes that provided one-half of Aruba's budget. It is especially crucial at a time when Aruba is preparing to separate from the six-member Netherlands Antilles on January 1st 1986.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

NEW SOCIALIST PARTY LAUNCHED BY CUDJOE

FL292146 Bridgetown CANA in English 2104 GMT 29 Mar 85

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, March 29, CANA -- A new political party espousing socialism for the development of Trinidad and Tobago has been launched here, one year before general elections are constitutionally due.

The Working People's Party (WPP) is led by Dr Selwyn Cudjoe, a former lecturer in Marxism at Harvard University in the United States. Speaking at the launching at the Port-of-Spain City Hall, Cudjoe said the free enterprise system here was working against the interest of workers. There could only be one alternative to this capitalism: socialism, he declared.

Cudjoe said the WPP's programme calls for control of factories and government organisations by workers, in areas ranging from promotions to the appointment of directors. The owners of capital such as private entrepreneurs and government are not well equipped to serve the nations interest, he said.

JACKSON, VENEZUELA'S CONSALVI EXCHANGE MESSAGES

FL031625 Bridgetown CANA in English 1530 GMT 3 Apr 85

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, April 3, CANA -- The foreign ministers of Guyana and Venezuela have renewed their countries willingness to work together to strengthen relations, marred by a century-old border dispute. Guyana's Rashleigh Jackson and his new Venezuelan counterpart, Simon Alberto Consalvi made their statements through an exchange of messages initiated by Consalvi on his recent appointment.

In his message Consalvi said: I take special pleasures in sending you cordial greetings and conveying to you my complete readiness to work closely with you towards the common objective of strengthening relations of friendship and co-operation between our two countries and of intensifying our joint effort characterized by solidarity for the benefit of all Latin American countries.

In reply Jackson said: I wish to acknowledge and to thank you for your thoughtful message which you sent me on your assumption of office. I very much welcome and reciprocate your readiness to work toward the further strengthening of relations between our two countries. Our joint effort, I am sure, can make a significant contribution to the cause of peace and to the future of the people, not only of our respective countries but of the entire Latin American and Caribbean region. Please accept my good wishes for success in your new endeavour.

Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi is now in the United States on a private 10-day visit during which he will discuss the border dispute over the 53,000 square miles Essequibo territory with United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar who is expected to shortly designate a settlement procedure.

METHODIST CHURCH DISASSOCIATES FROM GCC DOCUMENT

FL022040 Bridgetown CANA in English 1741 GMT 2 Apr 85

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, April 2, CANA -- A fourth member church of the Guyana Council of Churches (GCC) has disassociated itself from a controversial document prepared by some staff members highly critical of the government.

The government says the document, described by the GCC as merely a working paper, has advocated its overthrow.

The Methodist Church of Guyana, which announced its disassociation with the document, joins the Missionary Baptist, the A.M.E. Zion, and the Ethiopian Orthodox Churches, which have already rejected the paper entitled The Role of the Churches in the Search for Solution to the National Crisis. However, the leading churches of the 15-member council. including the Roman Catholic and Anglican Churches, have not yet commented on the document.

The General Purposes Committee of the Methodist Church in Guyana said it considered the paper circulated in the name of the council staff of the GCC to be improperly researched. The committee therefore wishes to disassociate itself from the paper and some of its aspirations. The Methodist Church is of the view that the GCC should similarly disassociate itself and censure the authors, whose circulation of the document has precipitated an unfortunate crisis in the GCC and Guyana, the Methodist Church said in a statement.

The GCC was prevented from holding its annual general meeting last month by government supporters. The meeting was to have discussed the paper, which pinpointed the government's policy of nationalisation and espousal of the party paramountcy doctrine by the ruling People's National Congress as the root of the country's severe economic problems.

PPP REACTS TO COUNCIL OF CHURCHES DOCUMENT

FL271930 Bridgetown CANA in English 1848 GMT 26 Mar 85

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, March 26, CANA -- The People's Progressive Party (PPP), a Marxist opposition group, today gave a mixed reception to a controversial church document that criticises the Guyana Government.

The PPP said the working paper prepared by the staff of the Guyana Council of Churches (GCC) is most correct to recognise that a deep social, economic, and political crisis exists in the country and that the PNC (ruling People's National Congress) bears serious responsibility for the origins and further deepening of the general crisis. But in its statement, the party headed by former Guyana Premier Dr Cheddi Jagan said it is incorrect to consider nationalization per se as the reason for the collapse of the productive sector.

The PPP added: It is also incorrect to consider the creation of a state sector and the implementation of the party paramountcy doctrine by the PNC as foundations of socialism (cooperative or otherwise) in Guyana.

The document is entitled The Role of the Churches in the Search for a Solution to the National Crisis. The document blames the PNC for Guyana's economic and political crisis. It claims the PNC used fraud and repression to stay in power.

The GCC said it was meant as a working paper and did not necessarily reflect council views. The document has been criticised by some small GCC member churches who have pledged support for the Burnham administration. The government dubbed it political and aimed at having the Forbes Burnham government removed from office.

OPEC FUND TO PROVIDE $3 MILLION LOAN

FL021847 Bridgetown CANA in English 1854 GMT 1 Apr 85

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, April 1, CANA -- Guyana's industrial rehabilitation programme has received a boost with a U.S. 3 million dollar loan from the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) Fund for International Development, the government said here today. The loan, a line of credit to the Guyana Co-operative Agricultural and Industrial Development Bank (Guybank), is the seventh agreement between the OPEC fund and the Guyana Government, the announcement said. The loan agreement was signed in Vienna, Austria, by Finance Minister Carl Greenidge and the chairman of the Governing Board of the OPEC Fund Osomah al-Faquih.

The government said that negotiations for a loan of U.S. 2.8 million dollars from the European Investment Bank (EIB) have been successfully completed. Like the OPEC fund loan, the EIB loan will take the form of a line of credit to Guybank for the industrial rehabilitation programme in the country, under which the bank will provide sub-loans to both public and private sector borrowers, the government said. Sub-loans will be made available to finance both working capital and assets for the importation of inputs, including spare parts and capital goods.

Both loans should be ready for disbursement by the end of May and are expected to contribute significantly to the governments efforts to expand and boost exports within the manufacturing sector, the official said.